

SPARK 114

(Matrix Code: **SPARK114.00** for StartOver.xyz game.)

DISTINCTION: Politicians are not your leaders.

NOTES: The belief that politicians are your leaders is marketed to you by politicians. 192 mega-governments register themselves at the United Nations as world leaders but they are not. Neither are their generals or corporate officers. It is categorically impossible for political, military or business persons to be leaders. Here is why. They do not take responsibility for the well being of humanity. They play games of self-gain rather than games of leadership.

If I am a politician I play the game of *I'm right, you're wrong*. I identify other politicians as *the enemy*, then start a costly conflict to keep the business elite happy, which gets me re-elected. Masses of people have brainwashed themselves into thinking it is safe to do nothing about this.

If I am a corporate director I play the game of *I win, you lose*. By externalizing social and environmental costs to the general public or to future generations I collect the most *Monopoly™* money and wipe my competitors off the board. Masses of people have hypnotized themselves into thinking it is smarter to do nothing about this.

Leadership is a completely different game. Leadership is the game of taking responsibility for the well being of *all*.

Mistaking politicians for leaders has given us a planet on the brink of ecological collapse, a fantasy-world free-energy-from-oil society that is running out of oil, predatory capitalism that demolishes economic stability, and no proactivity towards overpopulation, health care, pollution, sustainable energy, or developing the potential of each person. If we assemble the world's politicians to agree on a fair, ambitious and binding treaty for reversing climate change all we get is procrastination.

There is deep longing in the human heart to follow a good king. This is why we gullibly believe campaign promises even when we know candidates will betray us.

Politicians compromise to please their benefactors. Leaders understand there are things you cannot compromise on. Politicians believe what they have now is probably better than the risk and fear that come with change. Leaders make change. They go first, pushing something forward that they believe in. They paint a new picture of the future and then gather and empower leaders with flexibility to go there.

If you lead you may be labeled a *heretic*, or these days, a *terrorist threat*. The profound fear of being singled out and thrown into some nameless prison keeps most people's mouths and souls tightly shut.

Here is a useful fact. Today there are too many heretics to capture. Heretics are leading new and startling movements all over the world. Not just talking about it, but taking immediate and responsible actions to open new gameworlds. These leaders are right now creating and living in cultures of higher responsibility than mainstream culture.

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Find out yourself. Learn about and connect with any of the 111,000 heretical organizations registered online at <www.wiserearth.org>.

EXPERIMENTS:

SPARK114.01 PHASE 1: IDENTIFY YOUR LEADERS Your leaders are the people who open doors for you to expand into greater personal capacity. You have thought-leaders, action-leaders and life-leaders. Who has empowered you? Beware that a leader may not necessarily feel like a friend. This is because a leader is not motivated to act in ways that make them more popular. A leader says what needs to be heard, and persists until it changes the circumstances.

Perhaps you are empowered by your mother or father? A school teacher? An author? Explorer? Researcher? Filmmaker? Artist? Perhaps one of your leaders is a faraway blogger who just keeps delivering eye-opening text to you. Perhaps it is the person leading a weekly meeting or a training session that you attend. Is there a climate activist, poet, musician or performer who is a leader for you? Think about it. Who nurtures your heart, inspires your soul, brings clarity to your mind and stamina to your body over the long haul? Perhaps your partner is a leader for you? Or one of your siblings? List ten of your true leaders and how they inspire you.

SPARK114.02 PHASE 2: SUPPORT YOUR LEADERS Paying taxes supports politicians. They use half your tax money to buy weapons, subsidize corporate profits, and pay their own expenses. Figure out ways to support your *leaders*. Your first idea may be to donate money to your leaders' projects. This is important, for sure, yet there are many other things you can do. For example, it is mind-boggling how many people derive enormous benefit from the work of a leader and yet never tell anyone else about it! They keep it secret! Stop hiding away your leaders! Make it a practice to tell short exciting stories about what you learned from a leader. More ideas? If you bootleg films, music or software throw away your collections and buy the real thing. This supports the creators you love. Communicate with your leaders and write thank you notes. (e.g. Thank Leonardo DiCaprio for the way he died in *Blood Diamond*.) Participate in your leader's classes and workshops. Buy their books, CDs and videos and give them to everybody you know for birthday or Christmas gifts. Go online and blog about the work of your leaders. Give five star ratings. Write radiantly vulnerable online endorsements. Share links to their websites and blogs. Build their legend. This truly supports your leaders. Take actions to support your leaders each day.

SPARK114.03 PHASE 3: EXPAND YOUR OWN LEADERSHIP Commit to yourself as a leader. For example, Patch Adams, the *humorous human* doctor, writes back to *every single person* who writes to him <www.patchadams.org>. Child or adult, any country, if you write a letter to Patch he writes back personally to you. That is commitment. Commit to publicly sharing your vision of what is possible: write, talk, sing, dance. Then support and motivate the people interested in what you are doing. Yes, *you* can.