

SPARK 129

(Matrix Code: **SPARK129.00** for StartOver.xyz game.)

DISTINCTION: Responsibility is applied consciousness.

NOTES: Imagine that one night a man takes a pick and shovel, goes into the woods and digs a deep tiger pit in the middle of a popular jogging trail, putting sharpened punji sticks in the bottom. He camouflages the hole with a thin layer of branches, leaves and dirt, hides behind a nearby tree, and waits to see who falls into his trap. As the sun rises a man comes jogging down the path, falls into the hole and dies. Who is responsible for his death?

It is pretty obvious that the man is responsible for killing the jogger.

Now take the same incident, except after making the trap, the man leaves the scene altogether. And this time, the first jogger is a special forces veteran whose whole body detects the subtle irregularities in the path, leaps into a dive roll over the pit, comes crawling up on his belly, moves away a few leaves to discover that it is indeed a tiger trap, covers the hole over again, and goes to hide behind a nearby tree to see what happens. A second man soon comes jogging down the trail, falls into the pit and dies. Now who is responsible for his death?

Ah, this is a new situation. The man who has perceived the trap and waits behind the tree and lets the second man fall into the trap and die *is just as responsible* for the second man's death as the man who dug the trap.

How can that be? What makes him responsible? The fact that he knows the trap is there. His awareness makes him responsible. He could have warned the second man. If he had coincidentally stopped there by the side of the trail to take a pee without having seen the trap, and the second man came and fell in and died, the first man would again not be responsible. Consciousness creates responsibility.

This applies across the board, in every dimension of existence.

Becoming aware that there is a piece of litter on the sidewalk makes you just as responsible for leaving it there as the person who dropped it...

Becoming aware of your frustration, disgust, sadness or fear about whatever is not working in your relationship, your household, your town, your country or your planet makes you just as responsible for changing those things as the person whose job you think it is to change those things. Consciousness gives you jobs to do.

And this is one of the biggest forces motivating you to stay unconscious. By becoming conscious of something you may have more work to do. Think of how many people were conscious that the Fukushima nuclear power plants in Japan were built on top of a serious earthquake fault. Do you think those people want to admit their consciousness now?

Do you think pretending to not be conscious makes you not responsible?

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Since this principle has been banished from modern education, we have generation after generation of people trying to avoid being conscious, or at least trying to be sure nobody else sees they are conscious. What about you?

EXPERIMENTS:

Now that you are aware that avoiding responsibility equates to trying to avoid consciousness, what if you test out a different experiment for a while? What if you completely reverse your orientation? What if you let your consciousness show up in its full capacity and listen to what it says?

What if your consciousness is giving you ongoing instructions for detailed actions in your everyday life if you would respect it and listen?

SPARK129.01 LETTING NEW AWARENESS INSPIRE BEHAVIOR CHANGE. Here is one tiny personal example of doing this experiment. All my life I've eaten General Mills brand *Cheerios*® breakfast cereal. This particular morning I was absentmindedly reading the ingredients on the side of the box and noticed *cornstarch* on the list. The question suddenly came into my mind: *Is this cornstarch from genetically modified corn?* The box gave no clue. So I telephoned the company and asked. They said, "Yes." I was shocked that it had taken me so long to figure this out. Finally I was prepared to face the reality of this contamination. I asked the General Mills woman to please tell her boss that because their products contain GMO ingredients and the boxes are not marked I will never eat their products again for the rest of my life.

Earth will be dead before people accidentally gain enough consciousness to create sustainable culture. The edgeworkers, the leaders, the activists, the people with enough courage to go first are changing their behavior and taking a stand for changed systems. This would include you.

This means that if you become aware that the company you work for fabricates its products with sweatshop labor, or pumps toxic byproducts into landfills, waterways, the atmosphere or people's bodies, or externalizes costs to society or developing nations or future generations to maximize its profits, or uses unfair business practices to kill independent shops to put in franchises for greater market penetration, or extracts rapidly diminishing resources, or manufactures weaponry or nuclear products, or purchases politicians for special interest laws, etc. then you see that your consciousness is giving you instructions. Are the instructions to dedicate your life to making that company more successful? Are the instructions to take the company apart from the inside so it either radically transforms (see www.postgrowth.org) or goes out of business? Are the instructions to leave the company? No one else can tell you what the instructions from your own consciousness are. The one thing you can be sure of is that the instructions are not to be less conscious in order to avoid responsibility for what you see.

SPARK129.02 LETTING NEW AWARENESS INSPIRE YOU TO ASK FOR FEEDBACK. When you catch yourself looking at someone and thinking: *Why are you doing it that way? Why aren't you doing it this way?*, use the awareness as *an impulse*

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to ask for feedback. Your Box would probably rather *give* feedback so you can tell the other person what they are doing wrong. But this experiment is the reverse, to use the impulse to *ask* for feedback. Say something like, “Could you please give me some feedback to help me better understand why you are doing / not doing that?” Each of us has an inner sense that ongoingly guides us to do what we imagine to be overall best. The other person too. Simplistic oppressor / oppressed thinking is a fantasy concept, easy to understand but not connected to reality. The purpose of asking for feedback is to initiate a conversation that makes use of each person’s intelligence for general growth of consciousness in the community.

The feedback you receive may eventually awaken a vision about a possible future residing deep within you since birth. This vision may show people coming together to meet and recognize each other as unique channels of intelligence. It may show people connecting wholeheartedly and helping each other unfold their unique gifts. Again your consciousness is giving you instructions. Could you follow those instructions? What if many people followed instructions from their consciousness? What if following your inner instructions opens the way for others to also do so? By following the instructions from consciousness you may find new ways of living.