

Small-Biz as a Solution for Corruption; Other ills of Society

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When power and wealth are concentrated in the hands of a few, it usually leads to corruption and exploitation of the masses by a few. This is inevitable and follows from human nature and the seductive allure of power. While taming human nature is possible, let us leave that out for now since it is a somewhat arduous task that could span generations.

Every attempt at social reform has been to address this issue. This exploitation of the masses by a few happens, in the extreme case, even with both the two leading models of society and governance namely Socialism and Capitalism. A more practical and immediate solution lies in ensuring that the basic needs of any individual are met and he/she has a safety net that ensures a certain minimal standard of living. When survival becomes easy, people will not give in easily to exploitation. This can happen through a grassroots movement by ensuring that small business and mid size business thrive and the barriers to entry for such new organizations in an economy are minimal to non-existent.

When many such small organizations succeed and new ones can crop up easily, power tends to get less concentrated and therein lies the true solution to the many ills faced by any society.

Having said this, we do not mean that we should not say anything against corruption or other ills. In fact, any effort by any individual against corruption or the like should be commended and any such effort is certainly not in vain.

But what we really need to understand is that we need to support organizations that help small businesses grow and thrive. This is what the Great Mahatma Gandhi also stressed in his vision of every village meeting its needs indigenously through small scale industry. This can apply to all countries around the Globe even though there are varying levels of corruption and other cultural nuances.

A simple analogy is when a person is very sick, medicines help but what is needed longer term are better diet, exercise and living conditions. Same goes with creating more rules and protests, they are helpful temporarily but what is needed longer term is an environment where individuals can establish self sufficiency easily thereby reducing the chance for them to get exploited. When this happens, the common man is less dependent on the Government and other large Organizations, such organizations will have less power making it more difficult to be corrupt or abusive.

Surely, this perfect recipe for a smooth functioning society is easier said than done. Most would easily see that the simplification in this narrative is for the brevity that is essential in any call for action, which in this case is for individuals and organizations to realize the need to promote small and medium enterprises, their responsibility in making this happen and the benefits that will accrue to them once this

starts happening. As with any daunting challenge, there will be opposition from certain incumbents that stand to lose the most, with the added risk that success might seem completely elusive or become available in small unsatisfying doses for a long time, there is simply no excuse for not trying.

While this might seem like an attempt to change the world, it is sheer arrogance, possibly bordering stupidity, to think we can change the world that has existed for millions if not billions of years in our blink of a lifetime. The simple belief espoused here is that promoting small-biz is one way to make life in a society a fun ride for a lot of people. The other option might, of course, be to resurrect the psychedelic 60's, the hippie lifestyle and the blissful ignorance of LSD, all of which is neither recommended nor condoned.

----- Information about Gain Knowledge Group -----

Our organization, Gain Knowledge Group, was created to help small and mid size businesses with the longer-term goal of tackling the problem mentioned above and a few other problems, which are beyond the scope of this narrative. Please visit our website for further information.

Gain Knowledge Group
First & Last Stop For Your Problem Solving Needs.

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