

## THE CORE ISSUES

### **PRIVILEGE (from Privare/to steal and Lex/law – say, theft embodied in law !)**

Of Behind legal mechanisms giving artificial advantages

Leverage in political systems

Economic privileges levered overtime into economic monopoly

Power of big issues over core issues

Turning back on core drivers and treating symptoms

Each vested interest ready to protect its own privilege

### **Core Issues vs. Big Issues**

Overwhelming importance but still not a core issue

Land and resources, money, (corporate hegemony) and political control.

### **Reason vs. Pressure**

Drifted into complex system of privilege

Business and government partners in privilege

Issue not between institutions but in them.

### **Democracy**

Government not subservient to people

### **Land and Resource Monopoly**

Land held to be limited to that which contributes to common good:

[www.landvaluetax.org](http://www.landvaluetax.org) • [www.henrygeorge.org](http://www.henrygeorge.org)

### **Corporate Monopoly [Hegemony]**

• [www.corporatewatch.org](http://www.corporatewatch.org) • [news@corporatewatch.org](mailto:news@corporatewatch.org)

### **Money Monopoly**

#### **PEOPLE'S MONEY**

1. The vast majority of our money supply is created out of thin air by private organisations.
2. It is created as a debt and only large levels of debt enable the economy to function.
3. The interest on the debt means that the level of debt is outstripping the amount of money.
4. Even the government borrows this debt-money and we have to fund this borrowing through high taxes.
5. The whole debt-money basis of our economy is unsustainable, both economically and environmentally.

See EDM 408 December 2006

**[Money could be created as credit against future societal assets by a national treasury, issued into the system at various levels to increase societal well-being, productive capacity and purchasing power, and drawn back as economic activity begins its own self-balancing effect.]**

[www.globaljusticemovement.net](http://www.globaljusticemovement.net)

### **OTHER MONOPOLY PRIVILEGES • Public Utilities and Right-of-Way Monopolies**

- Franchises and Contract Monopolies • Self-Regulating Monopoly Businesses
- Discriminatory Taxes, Subsidies and other Transfers [www.taxjustice.net](http://www.taxjustice.net)

### **CUTTING THE GORDIAN KNOT**

**It is not enough to point to core issues and declare them important. We accept that most people are interested in symptomatic issues. Our task is to show how these core issues underlie the symptomatic issues, and how working together on core issues can be more effective for everyone involved than working separately on symptoms.**

From: [www.savingcommunities.org](http://www.savingcommunities.org)