



A Conservative View

Is the TM Movement Endangering Itself?

Brad Fregger

My wife, Barbara, and I arrived in Fairfield a couple of years ago. Moving here was a big surprise for both of us. She had wanted to come for years and I'd been saying, "No way, we are staying in Austin. I love it here."

Then on a May morning in 2016, I woke up *knowing* that we had to move to Fairfield. This feeling was extremely strong, and wouldn't be ignored. I shared it with Barbara and we decided to make the move.

Prior to arriving in Fairfield I hardly meditated at all; however, after arriving, I begin meditating regularly. In addition, I was quickly asked if I'd take on the position of Director of Career Services for the MBA program. This led to a few great courses and teacher training, all of which convinced me that the TM (Transcendental Meditation) Movement was a powerful, positive force for our civilization.

In addition, in watching 50 plus tapes of Maharishi's teachings, I discovered that Maharishi taught Conservative principles; as a Conservative this was extremely affirming.

This understanding, while affirming, was also very confusing. The Fairfield TM community is filled to the brim with Progressive-leaning people, if there are any Conservatives, they are being very quiet. Maharishi was teaching Conservative Principles but the people seemed to have been seduced by the Progressive Movement, a belief system that I believe was the antithesis to what Maharishi taught.

The answer ultimately became clear to me. These good people were misunderstanding both Progressivism and Conservatism and a clear understanding of both is essential; as is how Maharishi's teaching is related. With this realization, I wrote the booklet, *Maharishi Mahesh Yogi and Conservative Thought*.

Here are three examples from my booklet to demonstrate what I mean:

Conservatives believe that every person of every race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation (everyone) deserves their chance at happiness; that the pursuit of happiness is a God-given right.

Maharishi says, "Life finds its purpose and fulfillment in the expansion of happiness." "What you are in life - whether you enjoy or suffer - it is your own responsibility."

Progressives believe that women, gays, Blacks, etc. are deprived of happiness because of the actions of others, either current or in the distant past.

Progressives create victims and in doing so steal the opportunity for happiness from those they profess to be helping.

Conservatives believe that human life is precious. Killing a human, whether in the womb or walking down the street, is murder, an evil deed worthy of damnation.

Maharishi says, “Individual potential of life is cosmic potential ... when you kill a man you deprive him of that birthright. ... Killing is a sin.”

The progressive movement believes that babies may be aborted during the third trimester. In fact, some influential progressives believe that even a living, aborted child may be killed at the request or approval of the mother.

Conservatives believe there is a Universal Consciousness that makes up the entire Universe and everything in it. Some call it God, Some Allah, some Nature, some the Creative Intelligence.

Maharishi says, “If a man is able to submit himself to nature, then nature will react to his needs. Almighty nature is all powerful and all loving, for the laws of nature are for the creation and evolution of all beings and creatures throughout the cosmos. ”He also said (my favorite Maharishi quote), “Control is the enemy of evolution.”

Progressives believe that there is nothing more important than a powerful, controlling central government created and managed by an elite group of *chosen* people. That is what the people must depend on, not the fantasy of something more powerful beyond this world.

The Progressive Movement (Socialism on steroids) cannot afford to have the people under its control worshiping any power greater than the government they have formed.

If Progressives win, the heart will be taken out of the TM Movement, dependent on a belief in the Unified Field, the Transcendent. No longer will a belief in anything more powerful than the government Progressives have created be allowed. We will no longer be able to teach the wisdom of Maharishi and images of him and Guru Dev will be replaced with images of our society’s supreme leader.

I have been asked, “What is the difference between Socialism and Communism?”

In my opinion, the best answer came from Ayn Rand who said, “There’s no difference between communism and socialism, except in the means of achieving the same ultimate end: communism proposes to enslave men by force, socialism—by vote. It is merely the difference between murder and suicide.”

So I ask you, “Is the TM Movement committing Suicide?”