



Navigating a Maze of Competition

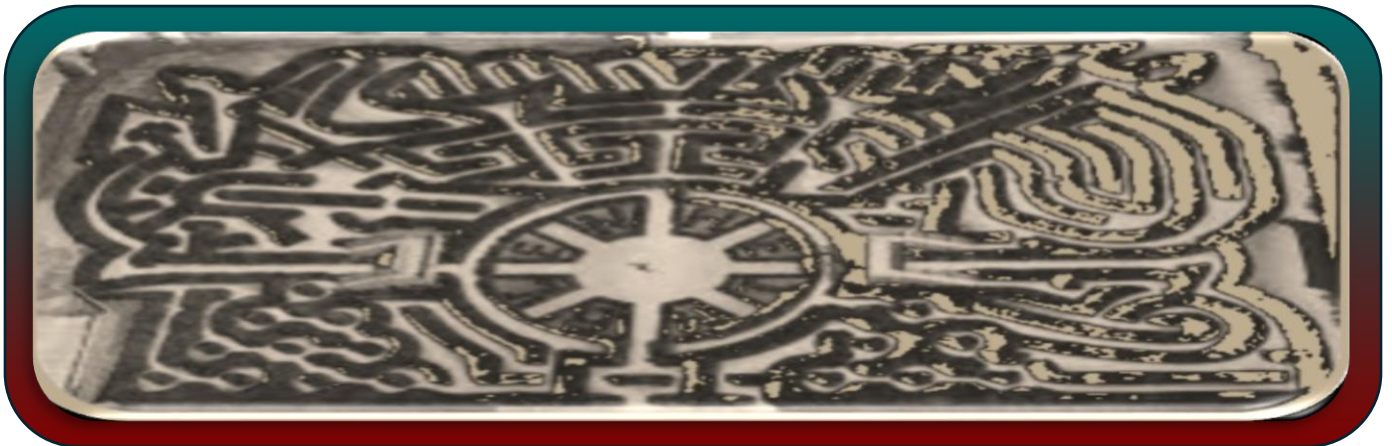
Finding New Ways to Collaborate for Meaningful Change

“You never change things
by fighting the existing reality.

To change something,
build a new model that makes
the existing model obsolete.”

R. Buckminster Fuller

Navigating a Maze of Competition: Finding New Ways to Collaborate for Meaningful Change



A Reflection

As the liberal and conservative educated elite became indifferent to the plight of the deteriorating masses, Hillary Clinton famously said: **“You know, to just be grossly generalistic, you could put half of Trump’s supporters into what I call the basket of deplorables. Right? The racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamaphobic—you name it. And unfortunately there are people like that. And he has lifted them up.”**

Since then, Donald Trump has embraced and mobilized them, tapping into the growing conspiracy networks that now dominate the discourse.

Evolutionary Protopia	Progressives	Liberals	Conservatives	Far-Right	Autocratic Dystopia
Regenerationists Eco-Civilization Voluntary Simplicity	Structural improvements for humanity and the environment	Incremental improvement for some	Sustaining the status quo	Improvement for the rich Improvement for MAGAs	Surveillance Fascists
Wisocracy promotes Wise People, Wise Leaders & Wise Systems Mindfulness Authenticity Transparency Accountability Efficacy Well-Being Economy AI for Good	Pro-Right to Choose Women's Rights Workers' Rights Immigration for Peace & Work LGBTQ Rights Pro-DEI Pro-Environment Rule of Law on Earth Peace & Gun Control	Affluence Entertainment & Celebrity Culture Rotarians People on LinkedIn Peace on Earth 2030 Game Empathy Circles These projects may make people feel good, but do little to change the systems destroying the planet (fossil fuels, deforestation, methane, nitrous oxide)		Anti-liberal deep state Anti-big government Anti-immigration Anti-abortion Anti-trans Anti-DEI Pro-Guns Misinformation Dismantle Democracy	MEGA MAGA Oligarchic Autocratic Kleptocracy Scammer Economy Private Tech Cities Cryptocrats Hyper-Libertarians Anti-government Privatization of Social Security AI for Evil

And today, he is running wild with these forces, demolishing the bureaucracies that liberals and conservatives alike occupy.

This political fragmentation is not just theoretical; it impacts real people.

It makes it feel like any attempt to create meaningful change is wasted – especially when the **progressives, liberals, and conservatives on social media compete** rather than collaborate, shutting down initiatives with their resistance to anything outside their own narrow worldview.

At times, I wonder, *What would happen if I didn't waste my time trying to change the system anymore?*

The frustration mounts, and I realize that without the right environment or support, I might have "nothing to do" – and yet, stepping back may not be the solution either.

In the Maze

In today's world, many of us feel trapped in a maze – a maze constructed by systems of **competition, meritocracy, capitalism, and politics**.

These systems, though seemingly designed to foster growth, often prioritize **individual success over collective progress**, leaving many of us feeling **disillusioned, disconnected, and frustrated**.

Whether you're a **professional** trying to make meaningful changes within an organization, an **activist** working towards systemic transformation, or just someone trying to **make a difference in the world**, the barriers often seem insurmountable.

The reality of modern society is that **competition is built into the very fabric of our systems. Capitalism, meritocracy, and political structures** reward personal achievement and victory while **sidelining collaboration, cooperation, and community-oriented values**.

This competition isn't just about winning; it's about the very survival of individuals, businesses, and institutions within these systems.

As a result, we find ourselves constantly battling one another – whether it's in the corporate world, politics, or social dynamics – **instead of working together to create something greater than ourselves.**

The Competitive Maze: Where Collaboration Gets Lost

The dynamics of competition create a paradox.

On the one hand, it's natural to want to succeed, to thrive, and to be recognized for our individual contributions.

On the other hand, when competition becomes the dominant force, it fosters an environment where collaboration and empathy take a backseat.

When everyone is vying for their slice of the pie, it's easy to **see others as rivals rather than potential allies.**

This competitive mindset permeates our **workplaces, our political systems,** and even our **social media landscapes.**

It can often feel like you're pushing against a wall of **apathy, self-interest,** and **resistance to change.**

For those of us who believe in the possibility of a more collaborative, compassionate, and cooperative world, this competition can be disheartening.

It can make us question whether any of our efforts will ever make a difference when the **systems are so deeply entrenched in rivalry and individualism.**

A Personal Dilemma: The Frustration of Progress

As individuals, we are constantly faced with the question: ***What can we do in a system that seems designed to keep us in competition rather than cooperation?***

It can be tempting to step back, to relinquish our initiatives, and to stop trying altogether. After all, if no one is supporting us, and if everyone is caught in the same competitive struggle, why continue?

But here's the dilemma: stepping back entirely may lead to a sense of emptiness.

If we give up on trying to create change, we risk losing our sense of purpose.

We might find ourselves adrift, with *nothing to do* – but is this a solution, or just a temporary escape from a system we feel powerless against?

- **Is the challenge about finding a life beyond the maze?**
- **Is the challenge finding a way to navigate this maze?**
- **Is it about learning to engage with the systems around us without losing sight of our own values and goals?**
- **Is it about finding or creating spaces where collaboration can thrive, even within a competitive environment?**

Seeking Allies: The Power of Collective Wisdom

What if the solution lies in seeking out others who share similar frustrations and desires for change?

What if, instead of trying to go it alone, we found a community of like-minded individuals who are also committed to creating something different?

There's power in collective wisdom, and it's often through conversations with others that new pathways emerge – pathways that might have been obscured by the walls of competition.

By coming together with others who feel similarly, we can begin to untangle the maze.

We can find **shared solutions**, **offer mutual support**, and **empower each other** to take **meaningful steps forward**.

It's not about abandoning the goal of creating change but reimagining the approach to it – sometimes, the most significant breakthroughs come from finding **new allies** and **building from the ground up**, rather than trying to break through existing structures that aren't ready to change.

A Call to Action: Join the Wisocracy World Café

If you feel like you're in this maze, struggling with the complexities of competition and searching for a way out, you're not alone. Join me for the next *Wisocracy World Cafe* where we will explore the dynamics of competition, the frustrations we face, and how we can collaborate to find clarity and create meaningful change. Together, we'll discuss:

- **The challenges of working within competitive systems**
- **How external forces shape our ability to make progress**
- **Exploring new ways to collaborate and find paths to positive action**

This session is for anyone who feels overwhelmed by the competition-driven world around them and is seeking alternative ways to move forward. Let's break out of the maze together.

Beyond the Maze

 **Date:** Friday, May 2  **Time:** 2:00 PM, ET

 **Platform:** [Zoom Registration Here](#)

**You are invited to join us for this open, reflective conversation.
Together, we can explore how to step outside of the maze
and find paths to more meaningful and cooperative action.**