

AS MANKIND STANDS AT THE GATES OF SPACE, WITH ONE FOOT ON THE THRESHOLD OF IMMORTALITY, IT HAS THE OTHER FOOT IN THE GRAVE. A CULTURE WITH ONE HAND ON THE MOON HAS SUNK TO ITS KNEES IN THE CORROSIVE SLIME OF AESTHETIC PERVERSION, AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS BASED ON FRAUD, FAITH, FEAR, AND FORCE. WHERE PERSONAL FREEDOM AND ACHIEVEMENT WAS ONCE CONSIDERED AN IDEAL, THE INDIVIDUAL IS TODAY REGARDED AS A TEMPORARY AND ARBITRARY POCKET OF HIS SOCIETY, MUCH LIKE A SINGLE BUBBLE IN A SCUMMY RAFT OF SUDS FLOATING HELPLESSLY DOWN THE RANCID SEWER OF SACRIFICE AND DECAY THAT IS THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY.

Nor should this moral situation be surprising. The soul of a civilization is its fundamental premises on what people are and how they ought to interact. In times past, Western European culture - and its epitome, the United States of America - was grounded on the assumption that each human was the proprietor of his own life; that he had at least limited authority over his person and property, and that violation of his free will was justified only in cases of exceptional need. This foundation led to the beneficial qualities of American tradition: industrial capitalism, political freedom, cultural individualism, and a benevolent sense of life. The Universe is a sane place, and a human can live in and control it by using his reason and knowledge to freely govern his actions. This truth was realized in the tremendous growth of science and engineering in Western European civilization.

But this culture contained the seeds of its own destruction. For if an individual is to have responsibility and authority over his own life, he must be able to make decisions with his own judgement, and not be overridden by force or the threat of force. By his nature a human has the absolute right to do anything he wants with his person and property. Violation of this right - using coercion to override his free will - is against morality. It is an evil act; indeed, it is the only social evil, and the only one that justifies social prevention. The only justifiable use of force is against coercion - in defense of self, whether one's own or another. Since government is defined as the social organization of legitimate use of force to control behavior, the only proper function of government is protection of individual rights against coercion. This protection is military (against outside aggressors), and police and judicial (against internal violators).

Instead of a moral necessity, however, individual rights are regarded by modern society as an expedient stopgap or a quaint relic. No country today refrains from using coercion and outright murder to control its subjects' actions in sex, reading, making money, using drugs, developing land, and other fields of individual behavior. Suppression of the social evil of coercion - rape, taxation, murder, conscription, fraud - is neglected in favor of delivering control of industry into the hands of incompetents and money into the hands of bums. The only "crime" that is taken seriously is subversion - any sort of resistance to State power. What started as the exceptional case is becoming the rule...the rule of brute force.

The individual who tries to lead a free and moral life under this oppression is at a great disadvantage. The evil thing about coercion is that force can overcome a free will - an Einstein may be killed by an idiot. Even worse for a self-centered creative individual can be the suffocating sense of being surrounded by emotional and intellectual louts, to whom beauty and achievement are objects of sniggering scorn. No wonder many fall victim to these pressures, and the implanted ultimate weapon: "Are you seriously saying that you are right and everybody else in the world is wrong?"

(OVER)

yes!

I am my own, and I refuse to be relegated to a life of quiet desperation. I am not willing to spend my existence running or hiding from tyranny, keeping at the end only the bitter triumph of withholding my works from the mob. I will not be satisfied to die with dignity; I will live in freedom and dignity, and create my own life by my decisions and my values.

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The International Society of Free Space Colonizers is a network of selfish individuals who are cooperating in achieving a goal. That goal is the establishment of a free society in Space before the end of the century. The philosophical insanity of earthbound culture cannot succeed in space, where each man must constantly deal with reality and failure is final and beyond appeal. Nor should it. Conventionality is impotent in a constantly new environment. Government regulation cannot work when getting results so far outweighs following rules. Slavery will fail where a person's most vital asset is the ability to choose, set, and achieve his or her own goals.

The ISFSC serves many functions; among them are those of a philosophical, technical, and aesthetic forum for this new culture of individualism. A monthly journal, QUEST, is published as the voice of the ISFSC, with articles on topics such as revolution for freedom, Creator and Warrior, technical aspects of space colonies, economics and sociology, and even ivory-tower philosophy and poetry. Monthly public meetings are held, at which formal papers on these subjects are presented and subjected to criticism. The ISFSC maintains a library of numerous papers on all such subjects by many contributors, which are sold for the profit of both reader and author. A project is under way to locate and acquire land for a suitable Earthbase as a center of operations. Research is being supported on technical problems of space life and industry and warfare. A Survival Council is in operation to assist members in riding out any widespread social, military, or geophysical catastrophe.

To further the aims of establishing free space colonies, the ISFSC is also working toward a free society on earth. Active liasons (and many successful joint projects) have been attained with many libertarian and capitalist / anarchist persons and groups. A loose personal network has come into being in which free and alive individuals can not only work together, but play and simply be together. More than just a corporation, this network is a growing cultural unit, with relations, conventions, and manners based on the same fundamentals of objective reality, individual authority and responsibility, and explicit (rather than implicit) values and personal interactions which form the ideological base of the ISFSC.

Membership in ISFSC includes attendance at all public meetings, a subscription to QUEST, full use privileges of all ISFSC facilities, and a 50% price cut on all ISFSC merchandise including publications. Interested members may charter local chapters (at least two such are being formed at present) so those outside the Western Washington area may fully realize the benefits of the philosophical, political, economic and personal network of the ISFSC as well as its meetings.

MEMBERSHIP, one year: \$30 (not pro-rated)
 QUEST, one year: \$10
 per issue: \$1.25

For further information, write

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Ultimate Goals of the Free Space Colonizers in Space:

- I to create a diversity of living, conscious worlds in space offering freedom for an infinite range of conscious entities.
- II to bring about the rise of individuation; the next level of human evolution.
- III to create new forms of life.
- IV to extend life throughout the Solar System and ultimately, the Universe.

Objectives of the SFSC on Earth:

- I to organize self-awareness among the Creator Class.
- II to construct an industrial-research system capable of launching and sustaining colonies in space.
- III to experiment in systems of values and organization enhancing conscious life in space.
- IV to establish the means for a long term colonization of space from Earth.
- V to organize a protective mission permitting the Creator Class to achieve its goals in space.