Youth Sanity In Crazy Culture

By Santosh Jha

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Welcome Note

Hello my dear young friend! It has now been established; every normal healthy kid born is the veritable genius of the universe, as it has been designed this way. However, it is also said, 'together, we all and this crazy contemporary culture ensure that this genius becomes an absolute stupid in next 25 years'!

Somehow, the genius of innocence in young, which the culture labels as 'sweet stupid', is in incessant pressure by popular cultural benchmarks of success and self-worth, to become stupidly successful. And, when success comes, it comes with such huge costs of hypocrisy and conflicts that the society starts complaining. You can ask, 'why cannot we remain, what we are, the born genius and a successful stupid!

I am perfectly sure, I am talking to a genius young friend, who has it all to understand everything that is there to be understood for a 'truly successful' life and living, which is undoubtedly the most amazing realism for all of us.

I am only too happy to say that this I intend to be a hearty and open talk between you, a young mind and me. The entire exercise is aimed at being in confabulation with young ones, with whom I wish to share something, which is such a powerful impact on our lives. Yes, we are talking about youth issues of sexual synergies, sensual symmetries & sanity and mystically beautiful aesthetics and purpose of life. Essentially, the talk is addressed to you, my amazingly talented young friend; however, if a parent happens to read it, I have a humble and

compassionate appeal that you should place yourself in a consciousness of a young mind. This shall make better sense of this exercise.

At the very outset, I wish to say a small thing to you. I am sure; you must have realized that the world we live is what it is, neither good nor bad. It is somehow neutral and objective. It is people, the individual as you and we, who are the 'Theatre' of all troubles as well as happiness.

It is in our individualistic consciousness and perception that we accept something as 'trouble' and others as 'happiness'. This leads us to a fact that whatever we are provided with, inside us or outside in the society; are essentially neutral. It is our subjective and personal positioning with these endowments, which make us accept them as either 'treasure' or 'trouble'.

The same energy, which runs a car for us, can cause major fire, devastating everything. The life we have, the senses and its complex interplay we witness in our lives, are such beautifully neutral and objective energies. Whether we wish to use this energy for running the 'car of our lives' or burning our lives, is purely in the hands of an individual – you and we.

That is why; my dear young friend; I wish to tell you that in all the talks we are having, we shall focus on things and ideas, which are inside us and internal to our perceptions. The external factors shall always be there as they are for everyone. However, what impact and effect they have on us and our lives are what we shall allow them to have on us, as we shall have a perfect understanding of things and ideas within us. On this premise, we shall lead our talks. I sincerely hope, together we arrive, where we wish to!

I affectionately request you to kindly accept me as your true friend. A friend is not one who tells you what is right and what is wrong. It is one, who is just an effective "catalyst", facilitating you a series of learning and unlearning, by optimizing painful processes of 'option-building' of lifeliving possibilities.

That is why, at the very start, I humbly request you to be my friend and accept this all as one long conversation between friends. Kindly, accept this not as a book but a 'confabulation' between friends. This, I am confident, shall engender smoothness of navigation and fruition of the entire exercise.

I need to say, we all live in a complex and conflicted world where almost everything is in for skepticism. It would be even better if you use this energy of skepticism and doubt all that we shall talk here. However, you should use your own resources to re-check their authenticity, utility and fruition. One must not 'reject' anything out rightly or show them a close door. Doubt them, re-check them, correct them if you find them wrong but never 'reject' them. Being wise and intelligent is an artistry, which involves 'acceptance and then assimilation'. The genius you are, shall always process everything deep within, before making a decision on its utility or futility.

I chat up with you to share with you whatever is part of my consciousness. All wisdoms say, 'what stays with you is what sinks in'. Wisdom is what we internalize. I share with you whatever I have internalized in my life. At the age of 46, I can say with innocence that getting old is such a beautiful and satisfying experience. Getting old has probably pushed 'me' close to the 'eligibility' of perhaps beginning to understand as what essentially is there to be understood! I feel truly blessed to share my consciousness with you.

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The Backdrop

As we talked earlier, there are situations and scenarios in a particular stage of time in our society and culture, which are neutral and objective. However, these situations may work out to be 'trouble' for some people, even while, the same circumstances shall dole out huge benefits to others. Being young, probably a teenager, you are seemingly on the 'wrong side' of a situation in society and popular culture. The simple reason is — you have almost negligible say on the state of affairs around you, even when, you are exposed to them in a most impacting ways.

It is only natural that as a young person, you have a precarious and unsettled relationship with the cultural environment around you, landing you in unimaginable positions of corresponding unsettled behavior-action possibilities. This qualifies you as the 'trouble' of the popular culture, as you are still not in good terms with all, which the popular culture and societal environment wants you to be in.

Globally, since ages, the young people have been labeled as 'troubles' unto themselves, even while the sad reality is, the 'trouble' is there in the 'adjustment' of a 'new entrant' of society, into a popular but ever changing 'belief system' and 'behavior-action-benchmarks', which is culturally accepted as 'appropriate'. You, as a growing up person has to understand very clearly the 'core' area of your trouble with this 'appropriate-benchmarks' and also, why you are often labeled by your parents and society in general as 'trouble' vis-à-vis these benchmarking requirements. We shall talk about it in detail, so that you have the correct and fruitful diagnosis and understanding of the 'genesis and genetics of the trouble'.

The contemporary concerns of society and culture with you as a youth are broadly in three areas – alcoholism & drugs, sexual sanity and irritable aggression. In all developed societies and culture, especially in western societies, there is a consensus that these issues need to be taken up very seriously as top youth troubles and there must be a mechanism in place to educate the youth about them. However, there is still a debate on what should be the ideal mechanism. Naturally, as they all experiment with different mechanisms, you as a youth shall be in more trouble, as what needs to be accepted and what not!

As it has been a practice, there shall always be designs and mechanisms, which the society shall devise for you and experiment them on you, hoping for them to be successful in abetting the trouble. They come to you as 'shoulds', a prescription or as 'informed choices', which you shall be expected to make. The trouble is, you shall still be not sure, whether these 'shoulds' or informed choices are actually wisdom or troubles itself! There is reason for such thoughts. We shall talk about it later.

The fact remains that, you shall always doubt anything, which is either prescribed to you as 'you should do it' or dished out to you as 'information' to make 'right choices'. Both ways, the idea is prescriptive, comes as 'expectations' that you must do them. However, you shall seldom accept them as, firstly; you have doubts over their utility. Secondly, it is always easy for you to decipher that all these 'expectations' from you, have perceptible elements of 'hypocrisy' and 'conflicts of interests'. You shall always ask loads of questions about their utility and purpose on you and shall seldom get answers as, most such expectations are actually huge hypocrisy.

It does not take a genius to see through it. You see that you are asked to keep away from alcohol and drugs, whereas, everywhere in society and popular culture, people young and old are deep down into it. You are asked to keep away from sex but everywhere, everyone seems to be indulging in it and in all spheres of life around you, all things have sexual overtones to it! You are told to be calm and cool in a societal space, where gun culture and rage is calamitously growing. This hypocrisy is so open and clearly visible all around that it is impossible for you to accept the prescriptions against their utility as one huge futility!

There is an alternative mechanism too, which is also being practiced and prescribed. This method understands and accepts that what is being told to the youngsters not to do, cannot be accepted by them as they see almost everyone else doing it. This alternative mode accepts the hypocrisy. That is why; this mechanism says, 'Do it but avoid accidents. Get informed about possibilities of mishaps and stand geared up to do it safely'. Naturally, the onus of sanity and safety is on you.

However, there still remains this element of hypocrisy in it. The same people, who label you as 'troubled teens' or 'wayward youth', are leaving the onus of practice of 'appropriate' on you. If I am troubled and my trouble emanates out of my failure to discern between 'right and wrong', how can I be left to be the 'judge' of my own wellness? The belief is, 'you do it right, when you have the right information and facts'. This is one huge hypocritical proposition. Why?

I am saying this to you with perfect belief that it is something, which you can understand and decipher on your own, whether I say it right or not. The idea that if you are equipped with all right facts about a possible trouble, you shall be judging right and keep away from the 'wrongs' of the thing. That is why, they tell you how sex and drugs at your age can be devastating on your personality growth, how it can land you with dreaded diseases and other related troubles. The fact is, you listen to and accept all these 'right facts'. Then again, you see that loads of grownups, educated ones and mature people around you are doing the same 'wrong' things and mistakes. You shall naturally question, "I am very young and naïve but all these people are grown ups and mature. They must have knowledge about what they are making us understand. Why then they still indulge in all these wrongs and inappropriate?" You cannot have answer, as the answer shall be again full of hypocrisy.

So, is that there is no solution? No, there is a solution. The solution is in knowledge of objective and neutral realities. The solution is in 'holism' and not in 'parts'. The trouble of all mechanisms, which are offered to you as 'educational or prescriptive' tools for eliciting 'appropriate' action-behavior benchmarks from you is; they are all only 'part' facts and knowledge. You are shown only 'half picture' of life-living realism as it is believed, you either cannot understand the 'full picture' or it shall be dangerous or inappropriate to give you the whole picture.

If science says, a kid is born as the genius of the universe, you can simply ask, why you are not wise and good enough to see and understand the whole picture! Your question is not outlandish. The other thing is; can some knowledge be labeled as 'inappropriate' for someone? It is said, you as a youngster are 'impressionable' minds and there has to be some 'discretion' in what should be handed over to you, at this tender and vulnerable age.

The bizarre but beautifully amazing fact is – at one hand, you are being offered some knowledge and information, which in all societies across the globe consider as 'adult' stuff, not amenable for the young impressionable minds. On the other, there is a huge debate on what type of information is 'right and appropriate' for you to get. The most bizarre fact remains that in a liberal and open society and culture you live, there is almost nothing, which does not touch your life and perception. The all-invasive media, the pop culture leaves nothing as 'sacrosanct and hidden'. The fact is – you get all information, the difference can be, from which source you get it. Now, the debate can be, which source is 'appropriate'!

The simple idea as a solution is, what I sincerely believe, you can very well understand, as you are my genius friend. Your genius is in something, which is labeled as 'trouble'. This hypocrisy is one big thing, which keeps you away from your own wellness. The genius in you is your natural, intrinsic and highly profitable 'inquisitiveness'. You have questions and all your questions are valid and right as they emanate out of your innate mechanism. This is your brilliant energy of personal growth and evolution as the new entrant in the society and culture.

As we have talked earlier, this world around us is very objective and neutral. The good or bad, the right or wrong is what plays inside the theatre of individual body-mind mechanism. When you get to know of this entire mechanism and see the whole picture of life and living realisms

and how one's own body-mind consciousness lands itself either on right or wrong side of it, you shall become the 'masters of the mechanism' and not the 'puppets of mechanism'.

We are friends now and we shall talk about all these things like true friends and shall together arrive at the complete picture of life-living realisms. The issue at hand – the sanity and aesthetics of life-living choices and purpose shall automatically be addressed, as we go through the larger picture. You just have to be receptive and open to ideas.

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First Thing First

Globally, youth is considered an unsettled and problematic period in a person's life. As you are in this same age of unsettled energy, you must first fully understand the mechanism of this trouble and unsettled energy. If you are labeled as 'troubled', you have all the rights to know, what the reason behind this nomenclature is. This of course is the first primary step in the process of seeing and understanding the whole and larger picture.

It is not a rocket science or some hugely complicated idea, which you cannot understand. This is simple and innocent positioning of mind, which you can attain as this facility is something you are born with. All you need to do is understand the utility of the simple idea, we are about to talk. This shall solve more than half the problem associated with you being labeled as 'trouble'.

You already know it that adolescence years are termed as time space movement from innocence to intelligence – from childhood to adulthood. This is the first thing you have to accept about yourself. You were in a beautiful and affectionate situation of a kid, where it was a 'love-all' position for you. You were innocent and this means, you knew almost nothing about the society and culture you are born in. There was actually no expectation from you as innocence, which is essentially a 'knowing nothing' stupidity, was precisely your virtue. Everyone loved this 'small stupid', which you were just a few years back but no more!

You had to grow and you just cannot wish to stop this to happen. Rather, you are just too happy to grow. As you start to grow, you cannot be left with your innocence. You have to learn and the most important learning is; what the society and culture of your surrounding has in it. Some of these learning shall be what you may like but most of the learning, you may not. The teenage is

the formative years for all humans on the planet and in this time in the life, you are moving from 'knowing nothing' to the cherished position of 'knowing all'. However, this is a long process and it shall take over a decade. You as a teenager are standing mid-way from both ends – the end of childhood, which you no more belong to and the other end of adulthood, where you have to reach but you have still not. You are in an 'unsettled' and 'transitional' space and that is why, unsettled is the tag or label, which should not offend you. Everyone goes through this phase.

It is only quite natural that you as a teenager are marked by crises of cognitive identities, individual benchmarks, social perceptions and role models. The crises and trouble emanate out of your unsettled 'mid-positioning'. You are neither a kid, nor an adult. It is a mid-situation where, at times, you shall find yourself positioned more on the side of a kid and at other times, you shall be expected to behave as grown up.

This dualism shall be taxing for you. At times, you may wish to be more on the side of childhood, whereas the parents or others may demand you to be more in tune with your impending adulthood. Or, at times you would wish yourself to be reckoned as adult, when others would confine you to childhood limits. This surely shall be very unnerving for you. You have to accept that this pain of dualism is because of your mid-positioning, which shall pass away in time.

Youth are characterized by inquisitiveness, pepped up & restless energies, iconoclastic attitudes, experimentalism, non-conformist Epicureanism and gang behavior, etc. That is why, young world over are treated with caution and dread at times. They are perceived as people passing through the most turbulent time and space. This is altogether a negative image and perception of youth. You have to accept your precarious positioning in the journey of life and recognize, why this mid-positioning has so much negativity attached to it.

Let us have a positive perception and believe that youth are people looking out for their space in the crowd of grown up people and their established worldview. All of us have to accept it that it is not very easy task for the young. They need positive support from the grownups and the world they knock to enter. We also need all possible resources of the elders to understand and explore the world they get the feel of first time. As the youngsters get the first feel of all things, they react, and they react just because they have to, not because they are reactionary. Reacting is not

bad at all! It is part of the process of getting to terms with new realities around in the ambient culture and environments. There is no need for grownups to be 'reactive'!

As a youth, you have to see and understand one small thing. You are entering a world for the first time and as you do it, your best friend is something, which is within you. This is your natural inquisitiveness. However, be warned of the mood of this friend. As you feel the world around you, it is only natural that you shall ask too many questions. The questions are all genuine as they are natural to you. However, this world you have entered, already has a rule, custom and culture, which you have not made but still have to accept. There can be rules for asking questions and there can be customs of having answers for them. You may feel, you have questions and they need to be answered well. This may not sometimes be possible.

The simple thing to understand is, even if you do not get an answer or get an answer, which does not satisfy you, you cannot feel agitated or irritated about it. There is no need for it. You are the genius of the universe and you can very well understand this simple fact. You sure can feel a bit sad and unhappy. It is this aggression and out of place irritability, which is the trouble with you. You just have to understand this. Your label of a 'trouble' thing is not in your natural inquisitiveness, but in the approach to it. If you successfully weed out the aggression and impatient irritability out of your inquisitiveness, you are not a 'trouble' but a 'treasure'. The simple fact is – you are always a treasure, as what makes you a treasure is your 'internal' and natural inquisitiveness. However, you turn into a trouble because of something, which you express 'externally'.

My dear young friend, do kindly accept with open heart and mind that the issue of all synergies, symmetries and sanity of your personality, expected from you is something internally and naturally available to you. Your natural inquisitiveness has it all. It is only the external expression of 'inappropriate' aggression and impatient irritability, which disturbs your natural synergies, symmetries and sanity. Life's aesthetics is in the poise and proportion of your innate consciousness within and this poise needs to be expressed in calm, cool and composed action-behavior. This wins everything for you. You lose only when you lose your poise posturing.

Only few years back, you were in the age of innocence and then, everyone pampered you and happily provided you almost everything you wished your way. However, the same people now

expect you to be patient and accommodative, if you do not have your way every time. This is simply because, you have already left this place of innocence and now you are on way to a destination, where all desires and wishes have to be conditioned by social customs, cultural practices and law of the land, etc. Growing up means, you have to be 'accommodative', as you are now inseparable part of the society, which is a place where individualistic desires have to be adjusted and accommodated against collective well-being. Everyone has to do it.

The simple fact is, the trouble is not with your inquisitiveness or your non-acceptance of an answer as the right one. You always have the right to say, you differ and you do not accept it as the right answer. However, the trouble is with the way you accept a no for an answer. The aggression and heightened irritability is the trouble. Your non-accommodation with an innocuous 'no' is what labels you as 'trouble'. It is not only with you. Anyone, even an adult, who is not well skilled with the social artistry of accommodation and peaceful coexistence has to be labeled as 'trouble' because, social system works on these golden principle of peaceful coexistence. We shall talk about it later.

It is somehow very unfortunate that when a young of a family shows up its inquisitiveness, the grownups have very little time to spare for the adolescents as we all live in a very complex and fast world. Even if they spare their time and attention, they are too prompt to disallow the inquisitive nature of young, which is usually full of instinctive logic and equalitarian appeals.

Still, the fact remains that, you as a new entrant into this world, have to be more aware and more accommodative about all the circumstances, which may not be in your favor. The simple reason for this is – first, you are a new entrant and second, you have to evolve and grow to later be in the position, where you shall create a better world for your own young ones. The more important reason is – you are still the true genius of the world, as you have still not been made a stupid, which usually people become when they grow up. That is why; you shall adjust more to be more in touch with better learning avenues. This is something, which shall benefit you hugely.

You are still new to this world, which has its own set of conflicts and hypocrisies. The world is what it is, neutral and objective. You are entering it for the first time. The hypocrisies and conflicts all wait for you and they shall be unleashed on you in a neutral way. You need to see and understand all these hypocrisies and conflicts. You are the genius and you can.

You shall see and understand; much to your initial discomfort that the real trouble is not usually with adolescent mind and teenage behaviors-actions. Rather, it is with the grown up world. The grownups live in a world, which has been constructed on the platform of life and living contradictions, manufactured and synthetic conflicts, unnatural premises and restrictive behaviors and actions. You shall grow up to see the negative side of our cultural evolution as humans.

Naturally, you as a young mind, which has not yet been exposed to it, will think instinctively and your mind would justify things you believe in, as the natural behavior would guide you. This would stand you in conflict with the rules and accepted norms of the grown up world. The grownups being in command of resources and authority tools, will disallow the young rationality. This in turn would confuse and conflict the youth, resulting in dysfunctional behavior pattern among them. This you have to guard against.

It seems very credible that the solution is not in negating youth instincts and rationality but in educating them about the world as it is and also about sharing their minds with appreciation and adult respect.

For example, a teenage boy sees his father doing something with full authority and social acceptance and so he would also demand to do it. However, he may not be allowed, as it may sometime be against prevalent law, social rules, cultural practices or family norms. However, it will be utterly wrong to discourage the desire of teenager and scold him or her for this. Rather the teens should be taken in confidence and told that he or she would also do it someday when he or she will fulfill a certain achievement in life as, nothing in life comes free and without frills.

The simple life philosophy is not to negate youth inquisitiveness and instincts rather educating them about various aspects of life and living that conditions decision-making and choices. Even if this involves hypocrisy and conflict, the young must be educated about it. Thet need to learn those aspects of life and living that evolves them in a positive way, inculcating a pride and respect in them, which is core component for their healthy and positive growth. Logic fills all empty spaces in mind and that is why; logic to anyone cannot be negated and denied.

You, as a youth need to understand and accept that there are some thoughts and ideas, which shall come to your mind, just because you are in a mid-situation of life. Every stage of life has its

associated thought and emotional outcomes. As a teenager, you shall have the following thoughts and emotions, which you must understand and accept. They are –

- 1. What is happening to you may sound exclusive and novel to you but it is essentially common to all humans in their growth towards adulthood. You have just entered this world but this world you see is thousands of years old. All humans have common mechanism of body-mind consciousness and what you feel is something common to most in your age. The sense of novelty of idea or emotion is exciting to you but may not be same with all those, who have gone past it. The gap between you as a teenager and those grownups is imminent. Most conflicts of interest, which you have, shall automatically be resolved, if you see it this way.
- 2. Most of your troubles and issues as teenager are usually very normal and they are generally a passing phase, with very high prospects of you coming out of them as winners if you have the right information and objective assessment capability. That is why; you need to focus less on troubles and issues at hand and more on your inquisitive mind, which shall lead you to attain more information and knowledge, finally solving your problems.
- 3. You have just entered this vast world of knowledge and growth and that is why you feel confused and at loss. As you are gradually exposed to the worldview and existing knowledge of humanity, you shall find that already this world has answers to most of your queries and troubles. Then you shall feel assured and at peace. So, be patient and give yourself some precious time.

Let us understand all this with the help of a true story. It happened with someone very close to me and I am so happy to share it with you. This true story has all ingredients of teenage troubles and also has the idea, which we have talked so far.

As it is with all teenagers, this boy in our story had issues with the discipline he was always loaded with. He was 13 years old and had started to develop his own set of thoughts and emotions. Discipline as the greatest morality was not always acceptable to him as he saw it as a tool of smothering his natural inquisitiveness.

When he was in class six, he had once dared to speak his mind and his question, which he considered very valid and innocent, had landed him in deep trouble. His question related to something, which had become a routine in his school. There would be seven periods in weekdays

in his school and in all periods, the teachers would assign homework. The homework of all seven periods became so cumbersome that he could not complete them even when he studied for three hours in the evening after playing cricket for one hour.

The next day, he would invariably be punished by teachers whose homework he could not complete. Someday, he would be lucky to complete homework of all seven periods but half of the days in the week, he would be punished in at least two periods for not completing the tasks. He would not be alone, as at least five-six others would be lined up for similar offences.

One day, he was about to be punished when he stepped back, withdrawing his hand away from the trajectory of the stick of his teacher and asked, was it right that he be burdened with homework in all seven periods? The question infuriated the teacher and he was not only beaten with stick but with slaps and fists.

The ordeal did not end here. He was produced before the school principal. The teacher complained to the principal that he had breached the discipline of the school by refusing to do his homework and then publically protesting against homework and punishment. The principal suddenly got serious. He told the teacher that if this boy remained in the school, it would set a wrong precedent for other students. His simple question was labeled by the principal as something like a mutiny.

He was beaten up hard but he did not say a word more. He however still felt what he had asked was a simple question and it was not even a protest, let alone a mutiny. The principal immediately passed the order to expel him from the school. Back home, nobody bothered to know his version of the story and he was scolded badly for being an undisciplined boy. The principal relented only after his father gave him in writing that he would behave properly in future.

Years after this incident, the same boy went back to his school in an 'Old Boys Association Function' and the principal, who had expelled him from the school was there. Both laughed at the incidents, which happened 20 years back. However, he asked the principal why he did not believe his words then and why he did not accept his version that he had just asked an innocent question and it was no rebellion.

The principal answered him, "I believed you and knew that what you had done was no rebellion or indiscipline. Your question was natural and innocent. Still I had to take the action, which I took because it was required for the smooth functioning of the school. Discipline is a notional thing. It is accepted only when it is taken as something indispensible, objective, nonflexible and unpardonable. If I allowed you the luxury of asking a question, it would dent the discipline mould and then it would be ineffective as a tool. There were a thousand students in the school and if everyone asked a question, discipline would have been very difficult to maintain. If I allow one question, there shall be deluge of questions and answering all these questions shall be one major trouble, which would take the focus away from teaching. I was a principal and my duty was to maintain educational sanity. I did what you too would have done, had you been in my position."

The idea behind the story is what we have talked earlier. How the world works is one reality. It has its own rules and own hypocrisies. They are there as objective and neutral systems. One may find himself or herself on the wrong side of the prevailing system. Others still are benefitting from the same system. What you as an adolescent can do is accept them as necessary burdens. You can well stick with your natural and innocent inquisitiveness. You shall have the time and chance to change the world, when you shall be in the position, when you create or preside the system.

However, what as a teenager you must have as a cushion is your family, especially parents. The societal system or cultural benchmarks are all aimed at objectivity and neutrality. They cannot bend even a little for you. Like the student in above story, the society system shall not allow you even a small concession, from its fixed standpoint as it is designed for groups and collectivity. It is the family, which is a place where you have lots of personalized and individualistic space. It is important for you to have a good and meaningful communication with your parents and family members. They shall be supportive in allowing your natural inquisitiveness to have better working space.

However, you have to accept the world as it works. You should always believe in your inquisitiveness and remain confident with the innocence of your questions. Righteousness is often a societal and cultural idea. They work as per their own logic, which you shall understand when you grow up. You can change them when you get the chance to preside over the same

system. For now, be comfortable and confident about your questions and inquisitiveness. And the most important is to maintain your cool. Never ever get irritated and aggressive in your action-behavior. Always remember, those who have truth in their side, never ever get angry and aggressive. They just smile.

If you maintain calm, cool and composed disposition, you shall realize that you shall emerge as winner in the end. As you shall grow and later enter college and even in career; you shall see that many of your natural and innocent questions shall meet with an untimely demise. This should only make you confident and sure of the righteousness and justification of your natural inquisitiveness. The nervousness or aggression, which you would see your questions generate among those who are responsible for answers, shall assure you that righteousness is on your side.

If righteousness is in your side, you should feel calm and composed, smiling. Why would questions scare anyone, if the answers are truthful? The force, with which the authoritative layers shall attempt to smother your natural questions, shall only reflect the reality that there is something that they fear the questions would expose – either their incompetence or ignorance to answer them or the larger hypocrisy of humanity.

If you are calm, cool and composed with your natural and innocent inquisitiveness, you shall grow up to the realism that asking question is a greater virtue than giving answers. Keeping a question alive, not allowing it to die prematurely requires a lot of courage, character and conviction.

Almost everyone claims to have the answers; some of them probably have. Most of them even fight for their answers to be the only justified one. Many have the authority to impose answers or the refusal of it on people. Only few however have questions and the courage to stand by them. You shall realize, if necessity was the mother of inventions, questions were the primary energy behind all inventions, all creations.

Just calmly and coolly, refuse the socially popular notion that a question is a sign of weakness as it exposes the ignorance of the questioner. You shall realize, a question is a sure sign of innocence and courage. It requires childlike innocence and courage of highest order to rise above the fear of being labeled an ignorant, to face the taunts of peer group and society to keep faith

with your inquisitiveness. History is replete with instances where courage of question of a few men and women led to revolutions.

Natural and innocent questioners have always faced the ire of the majority who feared answers. Always be on the side of your natural questions. And as you do it, do it with a smile. This smile also comes natural to you, as you stay calm, cool and composed, never ever giving in to your irritability and aggression. Always accept, if something has truth in its side, it shall always be non-aggressive. This is simple realism of life.

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The Genesis Of Trouble

We now focus our talks on the issues of sanity and sense in life, especially about sex and drugs. We have talked about how the adult world is very concerned about how teenagers handle the issue of sex and how it is emerging as number one trouble for teens, in terms of so many troubles for them and society alike. The issue of alcoholism and drugs use is closely related with sexual troubles as it has been established former aggravates the later issue.

The troubles for youth are unraveled in layers. The problems are multidimensional and multi-layered. The issues at hand are —

- 1. How teenagers can be convinced not to involve themselves in any sexual activity, till they reach an age of rationality and responsibility.
- 2. How to make the teenagers realize and accept that sex is essentially an exclusive domain of bonded pair of man and woman committed in marriage.
- 3. How to make teenagers realize that teenage is not the right time for sex activities as it has negative and degenerative impact on overall physical and mental health, as well as on balanced personality development.
- 4. How to convince teenagers that if they opt for sex, they need to take all possible measures to make the activity sanitized and safe.

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