

Microcurrencies

The Beginning of a Complete Banking and Governing System Overhaul

There is a natural global trend where power is undergoing constant consolidation and centralization. This direction poses a serious threat to Peace and Liberty everywhere! Launching microcurrencies is a powerful way to buck that trend! A microcurrency is decentralized money distributed within a local region with the eventual integration into local law and technologically implemented as a Bitcoin sidechain. It only takes a few good (wo)men to kick off a microcurrency in their respective area which could then set in motion a strong chain reaction for that area to eventually become completely sovereign with its own banking and governing system. Relatively small sovereign territories, with hundreds of thousands to several million people formed with the launching of a microcurrency, are referred to as microstates throughout this paper. As more and more microstates form and assert their sovereignty, the concentration of global power will reverse, with federal and world governments reduced into a multitude of independent coalitions that are strictly and narrowly defined.

Explained differently, a microcurrency is launched to help inspire a local community to adopt an interdependent monetary, banking, and governmental system that honors and protects the fullness of individual liberty without exception. This paper describes a candid yet simple blueprint for the successful implementation of such a system.

Motivation

With the advent of Blockchain technology, some have exclaimed with much exuberance, “Decentralize Everything”! However, decentralization usually lends itself to a slower and less efficient system. So, let’s not decentralize everything”, but rather let’s decentralize only the right things. The earliest example in modern day history of meaningful and successful decentralization is found in the U.S. Constitution where governing powers were divided and distributed. In other words, inefficiencies were introduced into the system to protect ourselves from our own “good intentions”. For some, this amount of decentralization was not enough; a group of individuals known as the Anti-Federalists argued for a smaller federal government, with more power remaining with the states, to further mitigate the eventual abuse of power. The rest is history, as those in favor of a larger federal government with a central bank (aka the Federalists) won the day and The U.S. Constitution was ratified on December 7, 1787. Even though the Federalists had the more pragmatic approach to the problems of that time, today, the Anti-Federalists have been fully vindicated as many of their concerns have proven valid. Continuing the work upon the inspired vision of these freedom loving patriots, let’s minimize federal power and decentralize the way the Constitution is implemented, by executing it at the state level. And it all starts with adopting honest money (e.g. bitcoin and the local microcurrencies).

Key Elements

A system is a collection of components or elements that are organized and interconnected to function for a common purpose. When establishing a new system, it's imperative each part of said system is understood, and how it interacts with other parts is completely clear. Presented below are the key foundational elements for establishing a local system that runs on hard money and honest banking with individual liberty prioritized always (i.e. microstate).

Global Reserve Money (GRM)

Bitcoin is best poised to become the next GRM

The Global Reserve Money (GRM) or World Reserve Currency is the go-to money of choice when conducting business, trade, and/or investments beyond the area of one's own local currency. Gold fulfilled this role for millennia but was later fully captured by the U.S. Dollar and then subverted and corrupted by the Federal Reserve. As dollar printing has become more liberal and its use more weaponized, it has primed global markets to consider a suitable replacement. Only one of all candidates for this global communication tool will succeed. It's a winner-takes-all scenario if free markets are allowed to prevail. Bitcoin is best poised to fulfill this role! It has an honest beginning, sufficient network effect, and a monetary & technological policy that has proven itself unchangeable by the whims of a few. It is robust, simple, and lightweight by design and has been dubbed "digital gold"! Its smallest denomination is the Satoshi. There are 100,000,000 Satoshis (\$ATS) in a single bitcoin and there will never be more than 21,000,000 bitcoins in existence... ever! Even though a slew of other blockchain technologies have emerged, their advancements pale in comparison to what Bitcoin has already accomplished. Bitcoin continues to prove itself sufficient for its cause!

Bitcoin is something you adopt rather than something in which you buy, invest, or speculate in! Moving assets into Bitcoin or Bitcoin dominated markets (priced in \$ATS) is a powerful vote against the old, corrupt, and centralized systems of the past. Anyone who comes to understand this, and cherishes their freedom, will be eager to strategize their own exit into the Bitcoin ecosystem. The Bitcoin Blockchain will host each microcurrency as a Bitcoin sidechain. This technical relation will facilitate exchange between the local currency and \$ATS thereby bridging the local economy with the global economy. To facilitate this essential relationship further, consider the following:

- No capital gains tax on the exchange between the local microcurrency and Bitcoin.
- It's a dual monetary system: there's money for internal use and money for external use.
- All financial services accommodate both local and global money.
- While launching a new microcurrency, include efforts to establish the distribution and adoption of Bitcoin.

Minibanks

Opening a minibank must become just as easy as opening a restaurant

Most bankers have a bad reputation and rightfully so. Rather than go to jail for their misdeeds, they've successfully combined their efforts to hoodwink and manipulate politicians to bail them out and enforce their monopoly. With such a fundamental and foundational element of society corrupted, the rest of society will also become corrupt. It's tempting to consider establishing a system upon which we live and operate without banks but it simply will not work. Banks are an absolutely essential service. The solution to this conundrum starts by embracing Liberty where anyone can open and operate financial services WITHOUT permission, then hold those that have operated such services dishonestly accountable! This simple change moves much of the responsibility to ensure honest banking from the government back to the people. Each person will need to consider carefully with whom they bank. The next part of the solution is to eliminate all dependence upon central banks and big banks and then only rely on a network of small independent banks (i.e. minibanks). Many of these minibanks will be established and networked together during the distribution of the local microcurrency. The core, or engine, of each and every minibank operates as follows:

- Honest, transparent, accurate, and easily auditable.
- Service to the local community, not a business that must continually grow.
- Independent, relatively small, and easily accessible.
- No special privileges, backstops, or help from the government.
- Helps hold other banks accountable.
- Cannot operate with any degree of insolvency. It must be dealt with immediately!
- Absolutely no reserve banking. All customers' assets are 100% backed 100% of the time and not usable in any other financial contract or agreement.
- Each minibank adopts a "set of standards and protocols" that can easily be identified by customers, via a badge or logo, and to which the minibank can be held accountable.
- Has technical expertise in Bitcoin, Blockchain, and Public Key Cryptography and how to operate with these technologies in a secure manner.
- Runs a humble mining farm and a few nodes (Bitcoin, the local microcurrency, and lightning, etc.); Makes available blockchain stats and explorers
- Actively involved in the blockchain development and the consensus process.
- To be considered a minibank, it must have sufficient community backing with at least a few hundred members. Launching a minibank is a community building event.
- Deals in precious metal coins (gold, silver, copper, etc.).
- Operates custodian, exchange, and BYOB empowerment services.

Good, honest, and competent (wo)men everywhere are encouraged to assert their right and privilege to reach out and grab a small portion of power by starting a well run minibank. It is one of the best ways to serve the local community, influence a sound system, and help restrain society's "professional do-gooders" from migrating towards governmental positions.

Microbanking

Microbanking is the first step beyond BYOB, an opportunity to help establish bitcoin & the local microcurrency, and a precursor to establishing a minibank.

The term “Be Your Own Bank” (BYOB) was popularized with the establishment of Bitcoin. It was perceived that large financial institutions and the governments they operated under could no longer be trusted and it was up to the individual to take control of his/her coins. The term also applies to taking control of one’s own investments while avoiding custodians. Microbanking is the natural step beyond BYOB where one helps his/her friends, family, and close neighbors with his/her self-banking expertise. It is done for free, it is not advertised, needs no permission to operate, and it is executed outside the incumbent regulatory system. Microbanking is already abundant in this new DeFi (Decentralized Finance) ecosystem; however, it now has a term to describe it and empower it further.

Microbanking activities are the predecessors to officially establishing a minibank. It is an opportune time to build and empower a local community (future customer base) with the knowledge and tools to take full advantage of all DeFi has to offer, help others adopt Bitcoin, and fully migrate into this new financial/governing paradigm. Microbanking is a great strategy to launch a new microcurrency and lay the groundwork for a new financial system that will empower the individual and limit the state to its proper role and duties.

Activities

The services available while microbanking are simple and few in number (listed below). Additional services, or any form of revenue-generating opportunities are not encouraged (with the exception of name branding) until officially established as a minibank.

- **Custodian:** There are those that just want someone else to hold their digital monies and digital assets for them. It’s either their locally trusted (and hopefully competent) friend, family, or neighbor, or a large-scale financial institution. In the spirit of decentralization it would be better for a microbanker to provide this service.
- **Distribute & Setup Wallets:** There are many wallet solutions (hardware, mobile, and preloaded/unloaded physical wallets) to help maximize one’s BYOB experience. It is imperative users get their wallets and know-how from a trusted and competent source.
- **Facilitate Transfer and Exchange:** When customers want to sell assets or a dying currency for something better. When they want to invest their \$ATS or make a purchase with a microcurrency. Or when they simply want to make a digital trade of any kind.

- **Mining Shares:** The initial distribution of a new microcurrency requires POW (using Bitcoin miners). This is a very exciting way to get involved, acquire the new money, and prepare the target market for complete adoption. A single miner could be purchased by a group of people and then operated by their respective microbanker. They all could then share the profits and expenses of the operation.
- **Mining Pool:** Operating a mining pool will help those in the local community that just want to mine and help distribute the new money without getting overly involved.
- **Information Resource:** There are so many voices and alt-coins (known in some circles as \$#!?coins) It is important to give the people sound education, perspective, and leadership, including frequent guidance via blog posts, emails, and phone calls.

Microcurrencies

Out of all the components that make up the ideal foundational design of society, microcurrencies is the most prominent and is featured at the beginning of this paper. Microcurrencies is where it all starts to get things seriously rolling forward for real change. Its initial roll-out is inherently powerful at building community and synergy; a must have to get all other elements of this system implemented. Ultimately, it will garner and maintain the most interest (internally and externally) and is a great way to measure the “bottom line” on how well a new system is being adopted.

Microcurrencies are launched “by the people, for the people” in preexisting geopolitical borders or, if need be, launched with the intent to combine and/or divide borders creating new ones entirely with new or refreshed local governments. This is possible by exercising our collective natural right to free speech and to gather, where success is achieved when there is a sufficient number of people in favor of such change, demonstrated by their adoption of the new currency.

Infrastructure

Each microcurrency is launched and runs on a network of minibanks. It’s expected that this network of minibanks will be ever growing and increasingly interconnected until the area (i.e. microstate) becomes sufficiently saturated. Each minibank operates their own Bitcoin node and microcurrency federation node with a reasonable mining operation. These federation nodes are networked with all other federation nodes within a microstate. Only new prospective nodes whose operators are both trustworthy and competent are allowed to join the federation which is governed by consensus of the pre-existing federation node operators. Collectively, minibanks can allow or deny any new prospective minibank from joining their network. This reality creates an ongoing challenge for all minibanks within a microstate: they must stay sufficiently liberal by allowing almost all new prospects to join, in order to avoid becoming irrelevant or replaced. At the same time, they must reject those that would likely do harm, while working to avoid network fragmentation.

Launch

The kickoff of a new microcurrency begins with the broad publication of its own whitepaper, within the target area, before generating the official genesis block. As soon as the genesis block is formed, those involved must hustle for the next several weeks/months to connect as many interested and trustworthy microbankers as possible to the new network. It is imperative the originators have their heart fixed on an open, fair, and transparent launch; otherwise, their endeavors may fail to bring about all the great benefits microcurrencies have to offer.

Anyone making serious efforts to launch a new microcurrency should openly express their rationale and justification for doing so in their whitepaper. Microcurrency whitepapers should also include the following:

- Reference to This Paper
- Targeted Geopolitical Borders
- Demographic Considerations
- Microcurrency Logo
- Technical Implementation
- Max Coin Supply and Coin Divisibility
- Launch Date and Coin Release Schedule
- Phase Out Plan for Incumbent Currency

Distribution

Proof of Work (POW) is a tried and true method for distributing a new coin in a decentralized manner to all those willing to acquire and operate the needed equipment. Because each new microcurrency will eventually become a Bitcoin sidechain, the POW algorithm of choice is the same as Bitcoin's. This way, the mining hardware can be switched over to support the Bitcoin network after the new independent blockchain is hard forked into a Bitcoin sidechain.

In order to disperse the microcurrency only to those that reside in the respective microstate, connections to the network from new nodes/miners (i.e. microbankers) are configured manually. In other words, a new microcurrency is not a discoverable P2P network initially to the rest of the world until hard forked into a Bitcoin sidechain. So, the challenge begins for each microbanker to be sufficiently liberal in helping almost anyone join the new network within the microstate while rejecting others that do not belong or may be bad actors.

The ultimate success of the new money will be hinged on the proactive efforts of each microbanker to help all those around them acquire and adopt bitcoins as well as the new local money while working to establish an official minibank!

Hardfork

Once all the coins are distributed, the new blockchain is forked into a Bitcoin sidechain where it becomes fully transparent and available to the global community. A 2-way peg is formed between these two blockchains and is governed by a local federation with additional security drawn from the Bitcoin mining network via merged mining. All Bitcoin miners are invited to help secure the new microcurrency and collect its tx fees (paid in terms of the new microcurrency). The local federation consists of all minibanks, and other interested institutions, within the respective microstate. Each member of the foundation runs a security full node and helps govern the microcurrency blocksize and fees via consensus.

Those creating and operating a microcurrency blockchain (sidechain) should consider all the blockchain advancements since Bitcoin's inception. As for Bitcoin, it is governed by consensus and could adopt any of these newer discoveries if desirable; but, keeping it simple and nimble has been the consensus for the new global money and that is definitely the correct way. As for a local blockchain, embracing the "best" technology with a strong development community could potentially unlock the fullness of all the benefits blockchain has to offer especially if it's integrated with the local governing system. It is crucial that there are sufficient technological features in the new sidechain to operate a Decentralized Exchange (DEX) with \$ATS. This will help tie the local economy with the global economy without relying solely on centralized exchanges.

Power Flow

The existence of central banks has afforded governments the ability to print infinite money or monetize their debt indefinitely with little to no accountability. Even obstacles or safeguards in place (e.g. "Gold Standard") to prevent power abuse, have proven ineffective throughout history with central banking. The ability to engage in "easy money" at the top becomes the ideal tool of choice to coerce every government, organization, and institution under its control. With this setup power flows from the top downwards and leads to war and decreased liberty. Power must flow from the people, where it was originally derived, and flow upwards!

With money and banking being the ultimate form of nonviolent power, the establishment of decentralized monetary & banking systems, where those with integrity and competence can create minibanks without friction, is therefore most critical to ensure power flows upwards from the people. Yet, there are still a few other power flow elements that need refinement to help the people hold those that govern accountable: Voting, Taxes, and Armaments

Taxes

“No taxation without representation!” was the rallying cry for many of those that helped establish the United States while still under British rule. The concept was simple; paying taxes to a far away government without any locally elected officials participating in said government would not be tolerated. And even if they did have local representatives in the British parliament, the amount of representation would likely still not be sufficient. Considering today’s situation, there is much that resonates with those early colonial days. Since the inception of the U.S., the *federal government* has taken the liberty to levy direct taxes upon all the citizens of every *state*. The use of that money is bloated with bureaucracy and inefficiency. Also, it has been used as leverage against the states if they do not comply with potentially corrupt federal mandates. This is unacceptable.

It’s time to give new meaning to the concept of “No taxation without representation!”? It should mean that any tax paid to anyone other than the local government or institution in one’s own backyard will be rejected. Doing it this way would surely help reverse the flow of power where it starts from the individual and flows to the governing organizations far away. In other words, individuals would only pay taxes to their local government (e.g. town or county), who would then pay taxes to their government (e.g. state), who would then pay taxes to their government (e.g. federal), etc.

As an additional safeguard, when taxes are paid, they are placed into the care and oversight of a minibank of one’s own choice; these tax funds can be held captive indefinitely by these minibanks if need be. Now, this doesn’t make the minibanks tax collectors, tax reporters, or tax enforcers of any kind. The minibanks will simply give a receipt-of-payment to each customer and then hold onto those funds until they choose, at their discretion, to transfer some or all the money to their local governments. For any amount of money withheld, the minibanks have the responsibility to thoroughly explain the issues to their customer base, and local government, and then keep them up-to-date until a resolution is found. This power in no way gives minibanks the authority to return tax funds to customers or use it in any way other than let it sit or get it transferred.

Paying taxes is a duty, but so is denying them when, and only when, the local government acts with any level of corruption, doesn’t hold its upper government accountable, or gets involved in areas where it does not belong. As an individual, it is intimidating to deny taxes to the government even when justified with moral indignation, but it will be much easier to do it, if need be, as a community represented by the minibank of one’s own choice. Empowering the minibank in this way also pitches two contrasting mindsets against each: the politicians vs. the bankers. This will further protect the blood, sweat, and tears of the people these two groups serve.

Voting

Relying on the voting apparatuses provided to us from the governing systems above is yet another example of power flowing downwards. This is no good. In our modern day Orwellian society, voting has been reduced to more of a tool of social engineering and manipulation. When both parties and the media are in cahoots with each other where good 3rd party candidates are censored, then it doesn't really matter for whom you vote. It all becomes about the voting for "the lesser of two evils" which is still evil. In order to switch this flow of power upwards then a new system needs to be discovered and adopted that is both simple and straightforward. One that can exert tremendous pressure upon governments to orient themselves in a desirable way filled only with the best people possible.

For starters, voters delegate their power to vote to their respective minibank where they will then participate in the selection of local leaders (e.g. town or county). All locally elected officials will then have the additional responsibility and duty to elect higher up leaders (e.g. state), and then those would elect even higher up government officials (e.g. federal). The pool of candidates for these higher up positions will mostly, but not always, consist of those already elected. For those moving up, their current positions are then filled by the second and third runner ups after recalculating the votes with ranked choice voting.

Minibanks take the whole idea of what modern day banking has become (as of this writing) and turn it on its head. They are more than just simple small financial services. They are geographically small microcosms that range from several hundred to a few thousands people with shared ideals, culture, aspirations, and beliefs. They are the building blocks of a much larger, more complex society. If one's minibank is not desirable, he or she is free to vote with their feet and find a new one. If there is no desirable minibank to be found, then create one. Remember, no permission is ever needed to create a minibank because why should there be?

While on the topic of voting systems, here are a few more improvements to be considered:

- Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) - Voters have the option to rank candidates in order of preference: first, second, third and so forth. Votes that do not help voters' top choices will count for their next choice and so on.
- Everyone's a Candidate - With RCV in place, votes could be cast for anyone (whether they are running or not; gotta do your civic duty) without them becoming meaningless. If the winner is incapable or unwilling then it would naturally go to the next runner up.
- No elected official will receive payments or benefits of any kind from anyone or exercise his or her position for some unfair advantage. They call it "public service" for a reason. Any degree of money or advantage acquired is worthy of a criminal investigation.
- Continuous Voting - Minibanks don't just vote once or just on election day, but rather, they have a list of ranked choice votes that are updated continuously as new prospects and information become available. Anytime the currently elected official is superseded by a runner up (with a threshold of 5%) then their positions are switched. There is still the so-called "election day" (every two years on the anniversary of the microcurrency) that is used to switch in winning candidates that are less than the 5% threshold.

The main basis for this new type of voting system is that it operates in a decentralized manner without waiting for a voting structure to be delivered from above, as well-designed as it may be. Kickstarting a new system via voting, at first, will be kind of rudimentary and will certainly be a power struggle; however, with a local blockchain established (i.e. microcurrency), it will be possible, over time, to create a decentralized ID system and add more sophisticated voting improvements like the ones listed above as well as streamlining the ability to delegate voting power.

Armaments

We are all born with the inherent right to bear arms in the defense of that which is right and true! There is not one iota of justification for those that seek to control arms to any degree (not even registration). It is nothing more than a mechanism of control and oppression by one group over another, justified by fear with every gun mishap turned into propaganda. Don't allow it... ever! Yes, there are problems, but there are also solutions that, if allowed, will naturally spring forth without any involvement from any government. Just remember "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." And also don't forget that "guns are dangerous, the only thing more dangerous is not having any". The only justification for a one-time disarmament of someone or some group is if they are actively preparing and threatening to leverage their arms to oppress, hurt, or destroy another.

As for the level of arms that anyone could freely acquire within a reasonable level, without social pressures of any kind, is anything that matches what a military infantryman uses. Yes, that includes machine guns, explosives, grenade launchers, etc. even if it's for pure recreational use. As for even more powerful armaments, it would be wise to start considering the formation of a small local militia, perhaps with local oversight (sheriff, etc.) with regards to its leadership and armaments. The concept could be further extended, for even bigger arms, at even a higher level of government, etc.

Independent small local militias formed by nothing but patriotic volunteers that make up even larger independent militias, etc., etc., that then make up a military is the only way to build a force to defensively protect from foreign enemies at any level that will not be abused by the whims and ambitions of any single individual. Just remember, "the first casualty of war is the truth." Individuals exercising their inherent liberty to acquire arms and build militias, where they wisely do it with the close involvement of the local leadership, is yet another way to ensure power flows from the individual upwards and not the other way around.

Governance

So far, in this paper, there has been much reference to “government”, having given considerable thought towards what it should and shouldn’t be. There has also been a strong notion throughout this paper to exercise any and all of the concepts, described above, without any regards to whatever government may currently be in place. The individual has many inherent and fundamental rights; the government doesn’t grant them, it only protects them. It is within our collective right to implement this new foundational structure without permission, upon which society can live and operate, if there are enough good people willing to step forward with the courage to make it happen and there are also enough people in general willing to receive it. Thomas Jefferson taught “... whenever any form of government becomes destructive [to individual liberty]..., it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government... it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future Security.” -The U.S. Declaration of Independence.

So, with enough people primed and prepared for a significant overhaul of their system, what type of government should be adopted at the microstate level? Well, there is no better place to start than with the U.S. Constitution, written by the Federalists, and including those eternal principles of individual liberty it represents. With all the chronic lip service given to this document, while trampling its principals underneath one’s feet, it seems important to spell a few things out right here and now. Also, there has been much learned as society has progressed over these last two centuries that may also be worth discussing in some detail.

Money

To reiterate what was previously established in this paper, one of the first elements to be corrupted within a society, by government, is its money – either by endorsing fractional reserve banking or adopting a fiat currency. “Permit me to issue and control the money of a nation, and I care not who makes its laws!” - Mayer Amschel Rothschild. Therefore, an integral part of any constitution must include a declaration of the money that will be its legal tender; the only money used to pay taxes, to measure increase, and the only money used to form financial contracts of any kind within a microstate. The best money is the new microcurrency that will have been successfully distributed and adopted by a good portion of the people. This will maximize the sovereignty of the microstate while decentralizing monetary controls with the new hard (i.e. finite) money.

If there is ever any level of corruption or collusion between a government and the minibanks, with the minibanks colluding to monopolize the banking industry in any way, then it’s time to restart from ground zero and do it all over again. One key indicator for this corruption is the ease at which banks will purchase government bonds.

It will also be important to give recognition to the GRM (i.e. Bitcoin), in the constitution, as the money of choice for doing any type of external trade, payment, investment, etc. The GRM also acts as the go-to money of choice for global investments and insurance against a failing local government, monetary, or banking system. It may also be worth mentioning how important it is that there never be any capital gains tax from trading between the local money and the GRM, to better reinforce direct ties to the global economy.

Regulation

Creating a safe environment for children to grow, learn, and play without incident is, indeed, good parenting; however, in the formation of good government, we are not out to create “parents” for ourselves. “Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive...” - C. S. Lewis. As nice as it would be to go about our daily business without giving any consideration, ever, to any potential pitfall, trying to make the government take responsibility for every potential mishap would be a mistake. It is just too much. There are many civil liberties that would be seriously jeopardized with it. Regulation is a good example.

The government getting involved in regulating private industries (especially financial) for the security and protection of the individual has proven to be a liberty death spiral. Regulation begets more regulation, more government oversight, and more government involvement in areas where it has no business. Regulation as a function of government creates a monopoly on a solution that is then forced upon all participants of a particular industry. This prevents the best solutions from being discovered while also providing leverage for companies to lobby (or collude) with the government to gain favorable opportunities, all the while destroying their competition. There is a better way: self-regulation, as a function of free-market demands, where the government simply holds businesses and services accountable to their own self-declared protocols and standards.

With government staying in its lane, and out of the way, it allows the needed and desired regulation and auditing to be provided by a multitude of third party organizations and services whereby competing standards, protocols, and certificates (no licenses) can be created. It is then up to the consumer to select products and services that carry the badge (e.g. logo) representing the desired self-regulations. If a company or service does not live up to its self-declared protocols, standards, and certificates then a criminal prosecution should follow from the government, as this is its rightful role.

The Proper Role of Government

When it comes to the government, beware the “professional do-gooders”!

Good government is a geographical community coming together to provide sovereignty, basic protection, from enemies both foreign and domestic, and infrastructure that cannot be reasonably administered in any other way. The most fundamental element of this infrastructure is the discovery and recognition of natural law and holding all individuals accountable to it (e.g. one's freedom ends where another's begins). Leveraging government to provide any additional services must be done with consistent wisdom, restraint, and oversight - always remembering "That government is best which governs least..." and government is the servant not the master.

Where the line is drawn between basic services and government excesses will be unique to each community, and their respective governments. There must always be a constant effort to keep solutions and services as local as possible while finding ways to minimize the government's involvement in providing any solution for society. This will allow free market competition, from multiple entities, to step in with all its creativity and innovation.

Government's involvement in insurance, healthcare, education, family planning, victimless “crimes”, and welfare - or other unfortunate circumstances - to any degree constitutes clear excesses and endangers individual liberty. You cannot fix society's problems, without coercion, when society is the problem! Where there is likely a myriad of solutions and full individual accountability, the government must stay out completely. Unfortunately, when a government provides a solution, all other potential solutions ultimately become unavailable.

Because natural resources and the environment are limited or finite, and all people depend upon them to varying degrees, it would be wise to allow the most local government possible to own, control, and manage them for the people. In this regard, the government acts like a corporation where all citizens are equal shareholders. However, where these resources and the environment are utilized, it must be for the greatest benefit of all citizens for both the short and long term, making sure its bureaucratic stewards are not acting in their own self-interest.

Finally, it must be mentioned how imperative it is that existential threats (e.g. climate, natural disasters, pandemics, war, etc.) never become an excuse to curtail individual liberties to any degree... ever!

The Human Cycle

“Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it.” With this quote in mind, one thing that can be learned from history, is that people do not learn from history! It appears mankind is “doomed” to an endless cycle. Michael Hopf, in his postapocalyptic novel, described it this way:

“Hard times create strong men, strong men create good times, good times create weak men, and weak men create hard times.”

As society goes through great times, pride, entitlement, idleness, immorality, addictions, deterioration of the family, godlessness, and overall social decay begins to set-in, more and more people cry out for the government to solve these problems and avoid personal accountability. All efforts, by good and wise citizens, must be made to keep the government as small and simple as possible, without getting involved in jumping in and fixing these social problems, until it is time to either vote with one's feet or to dust-off the concepts contained in this paper, and start over.

Call to Action

Building a large community around Bitcoin and a network of honest and competent minibanks, with their respective communities and while launching a microcurrency, establishes basic infrastructure. It also sets in motion the needed synergy to bring about fundamental change in society. If you are tired of corruption and power consolidation, where laws are established to protect the status quo, then it is time to adopt Bitcoin, launch a new local money, start microbanking, and build a community around a future minibank while helping others do the same.

This document is not meant for a society that consists mostly of “perfect people”, nor will it work for a society that consists of mostly dishonest and immoral people. It is meant for a society that simply has enough “good” people that are willing to put God first and make the effort to make things as best as possible in a very imperfect world.