

The Venus Project and the New World Order:

A Critical Review

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26/03/2021

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Abstract

The Venus Project is a non-profit organization that dedicates itself to social evolution. Due to the radical nature of its aims and proposals it has garnered criticism from conspiracy analysts on the basis that it is cooperating with an elitist cabal that is conspiring to form a global, technocratic order. In this paper I show why such criticism is misguided and why the organization is unique insofar as it appears to be the only one of its kind in the world.

Introduction

The Venus Project is a non-profit organization, which was founded by Jacque Fresco (now deceased).¹ The organization proposes a new socio-economic model that is called a “Resource-Based Economy”, which would entail in the elimination of most of the major problems affecting civilization today, such as corruption, hunger, poverty and war. The organization suggests that the root cause of these problems is the monetary system and that a Resource-Based Economy has the capacity to eliminate them.

In spite of the organization’s efforts to inform the public about its existence and its objectives, it has garnered criticism due to the belief that it is acting on the behalf of the global elite to establish a New World Order. This is a phrase that is commonly used by conspiracy researchers to describe a totalitarian form of government that is global in scale and scope, whereby the people are subdued through physical and psychological means.

After having analyzed the criticisms, I am able to acknowledge that the proposals of The Venus Project are uncannily similar to those of the Communist Manifesto and Agenda 21, given how the latter two also propose and describe the foundations for a new socioeconomic model through the establishment of a New World Order, or a New International Economic Order.² However, if we take the time to analyze the

matter more carefully, we notice that there are certain inconsistencies with the theory that The Venus Project is pursuing a dystopian agenda.

Thus, in this article I describe some of the criticisms that have been directed at The Venus Project and how they have come to proliferate. I then proceed to discuss as to why the critics are misguided and why The Venus Project is an organization that cares about the happiness and health of all people. Further, I shall explain as to how the organization may be misguided, due to its support of the theory of anthropogenic global warming, which is dependent upon the faulty climatological science and models. Let this paper also be a brief study into one of the world's only organizations that seems to have a complete and detailed blueprint for potentially transforming our planet into a second Garden of Eden, in the words of its founder, without having to resort to destructive ideologies or practices.

Research and Analysis

Background of the Organization

Although The Venus Project was founded in 1995, its history begins many years before when its founder, Jacque Fresco, had developed the scientific discipline that is called Sociocyberneering. The term is currently defined as “Cybernation and Engineering applied to the Social System”.³ According to the organization's website, the application of this scientific discipline can help put an end to most of the major problems affecting civilization, such as corruption, hunger, poverty and war.⁴

It is explained that the root causes of the world's problems today can be linked in one way or another, to the capitalist system. Due to the nature of the system's design, which is now obsolete, nations are forced to compete against each other, rather than to cooperate with each other. This is why the organization proposes a socioeconomic model called a Resource-Based Economy that would replace the current system. Under this system, which is designed to use the best that science and technology has to offer, it would then be possible to produce in such abundance

that all of the world's people could have their needs met, without the need for money. Accordingly, because such a change has never occurred before in the history of humanity, it will require drastic changes in the way people think.

It is emphasized that attempting to solve the problems of today using merely an economic or political approach, is no longer viable. The problems of today and of the future cannot be addressed in the same way that they have in the past and therefore, it necessitates the use of the scientific method in order to engineer a new kind of society, one that functions in accordance to natural law. This would entail in transforming the environment, with the desired result of changing human behavior. The reason for this is because the laws of today fail to maintain order, as they do not address the issues concerning why people behave the way they do. Hence, they are merely attempts at controlling human behavior. This is also emphasized because as the behavioral psychologist B. F. Skinner once stated:

Which position is going to help us do something about the problems which face us in the world today? Are we going to solve problems by changing peoples' feelings, or are we going to solve them by changing the situation which has given rise to these feelings? I think if you change the situation you'll change them both.⁵

It is for this reason that The Venus Project emphasizes the need for social engineering, because this is what will help ensure that not only peoples' needs are met, but that they live in accordance to the carrying capacity of the planet. What is needed is the intelligent management of the Earth's resources, which is something that can be done with the aid of computerized systems.⁶ What I have just explained is in essence what the organization is attempting to accomplish as part of its strategy.

In spite of the evidence suggesting otherwise, the organization has garnered criticism due to how its aims and proposals appear to suggest the establishment of a global, technocratic dictatorship. However, is this true?

Criticism of the Organization

The Venus Project is a non-profit organization that aims to bring humanity to the next stage of social evolution. However, it has been criticized by some due to the belief that its proposals embody characteristics that are similar to communism and technocracy.⁷ The latter have come to be associated with the New World Order, which in turn is associated with a totalitarian conspiracy. This isn't without reason either.⁸ The organization's aims and proposals do contain a number of elements that seem to have been influenced by Marxist ideologies.⁹ For instance, the proposed socioeconomic model would render private property useless. All artificial boundaries separating nations today would be eliminated and resources would be distributed equitably to ensure that everyone has access to what they need, which would be done without the need for monetary exchange. Because of this, some individuals have taken the effort to warn and even dissuade the public about helping or having any affiliation with the organization.¹⁰

Another aspect to consider is that the organization also appears to embody certain characteristics that are found in a technocracy. The term, as with others that I have already mentioned has negative connotations due to how it describes a scientific dictatorship, a concept that is far from new as it has already been approached by numerous authors of science-fiction, including but not limited to: Aldous Huxley, George Orwell and H. G. Wells. One article in particular, refers to what is called "techno-utopianism", which is the belief that technology will be able to solve all social problems, resulting in a seemingly perfect society.¹¹ The authors of the article argue that when science and technology is applied to governance, the result will be invariably oppressive. They also question as to whether living under such an environment would be ideal because of how machines would have the capacity to do most of the work necessary for civilization to exist, which would supposedly lead to a population that is sedentary and that does not have any meaningful occupation to pursue. Subsequently, they argue that such a population would be easier to control. Further, the authors consider it ironic that The Venus Project advocates for world

government as an alternative to the elitism that is apparent today. The explanation they provide for this is that the “emphasis on external forces as the dominant sculptors of human behavior provides the rationale for the necessity of a class of conditioners that would be unaccountable to the masses”.¹² Something else that gives credence to their argument, even though they do not mention it, is that the organization supports the claim that catastrophic climate change is being driven by excess, anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions.¹³ It is now widely known among scientists that this claim, which is promoted by establishment entities, especially the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is false.¹⁴

Interestingly, in an interview with Larry King in 1974, Jacque Fresco states that his ideas have nothing to do with Communism, Fascism or Socialism.¹⁵ Although he never mentions anything about technocracy, his arguments appear to make references to it. What is also interesting is that the author Patrick Wood makes a similar statement in his book *Technocracy Rising* where he states that “The dark horse of the New World Order is not Communism, Socialism or Fascism. It is Technocracy.”¹⁶ With all of the above taken into account, it does make one wonder as to whether The Venus Project has ulterior motives.

Why the Criticism Is Misguided

Critics of The Venus Project ignore much of the evidence that invalidates their arguments. In the following paragraphs I explain why their beliefs are misguided.

The Venus Project recognizes that the problems of today cannot be solved using past methods. The pace of scientific and technological development has far exceeded the development of the capitalist system. Thus, the solutions must be based upon facts and logic, which indicates that a Resource-Based Economy is different from any other socioeconomic system that has been proposed and/or established in history. What is it then that the organization is attempting to accomplish? The answer to

that is not entirely obvious unless we take the time to study Sociocyberneering, as well as the organization's historical background.

Jacque Fresco once stated during a lecture that he was a former member of Technocracy Inc. and that he had discussions with its founder, Howard Scott.¹⁷ However, he left the organization due to a disagreement he had with its founder, and because he discovered that he did not have a detailed blueprint for redesigning the socioeconomic system. As such, there were some elements about the technocracy movement that Jacque believed would be relevant to the development of his vision. Thus, his organization could be described as having technocratic characteristics, even though it does not uphold all ideas that are associated with the technocracy movement.

During an interview with Larry King in 1974, Jacque Fresco states that he does not believe in population control. He suggests that a well-educated population can make intelligent decisions for itself and therefore, it does not need to be controlled.¹⁸ What he is suggesting is that a society which values democracy will actively encourage people to help themselves by providing them with the necessary information, rather than pursuing an authoritarian approach that does not do so. Even though the evidence indicates that The Venus Project was founded upon emancipatory principles, the organization has been criticized due to the belief that it is being funded by certain vested interests, which is an issue that Jacque Fresco addresses during a lecture in 2010.¹⁹ During this lecture, he explains that The Venus Project is primarily funded through donations and the educational resources that it sells. The details of the organization's financial status are available on its website, which confirms that there is no evidence of collusion.²⁰

Perhaps one of the most significant pieces of evidence that helps to explain as to why The Venus Project is not associated with a totalitarian conspiracy is an interview that was conducted in 2010 with Jacque Fresco.²¹ During the interview, Jacque is asked as to whether he is proposing a New World Order, considering that the transition toward a Resource-Based Economy would require a dramatic

transformation of the socioeconomic system. His response to the question is as follows “Yes. But the ‘New World Order’ most people are afraid of is the one where business people are in control. The world I’m talking about is one which raises every human being to their highest potential.” Shortly afterwards, the interviewers respond with the following question “So globalization isn’t such a bad thing after all?” to which Jacque replies “Again, when you use that term in this society, it means that the business world is in charge: bankers in charge of all things on Earth. But when I talk of ‘globalization’ I mean that all nations share all the Earth’s resources: a resource-based economy.” As we can observe, Jacque is aware of what the interviewers were asking him about, where he makes the distinction between the world he is trying to create and the world that the global elite are trying to create. However, what isn’t certain is the depth of his understanding of corruption. As I have stated previously, the organization promotes to believe in the theory that catastrophic climate change is being driven by excess, anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, even though it is widely known that this belief lacks evidence.²² What this suggests is that that the organization is either misled, or is trying to mislead. Given everything that I have discussed in this paper, it is unlikely that the organization would strive to deceive people as it wouldn’t benefit in any manner from doing so.

Conclusion

Even though The Venus Project advocates for the establishment of a new global order, it is not associated with a global, technocratic dictatorship. As I have shown in this paper, the organization does not have a source of revenue that indicates any capacity for mobilizing people and resources in any quality or quantity that would be required for implementing such a government. It is unclear as to why the organization would be interested in conspiring to form a global, technocratic dictatorship, given that it is distributing masses of educational material, and for free. Further, Jacque Fresco had communicated his intentions a number of times,

where one of his main interests was to liberate people by providing them with information that would enable them to better understand natural law. This is not the behavior expected from someone who desires to control the world through a technocratic dictatorship, especially when we consider that he has been openly critical of the abuse of science and technology.

The major difference between the actions of The Venus Project and those of the global elite, is that the former invites all people to participate in building a world that will serve their individual and collective interests, i.e. by the people and for the people. In contrast, the global elite invite each other to find ways in building a world that will suit their interests and at the expense of the people who are not members of their consortium.

Although the aims and proposals of The Venus Project are not flawless, they do present the opportunity for working toward a better world. I mention this because as I have suggested in the introduction, it does seem to be the only organization that has a complete and detailed blueprint for solving most of the major problems that affect humanity today. This should warrant the attention of anyone who is concerned not only for their own future existence, but for that of all life on Earth.

References

¹"Jacque Fresco". 2019. *The Venus Project*. <https://www.thevenusproject.com/the-venus-project/jacque-fresco/>.

² The New World Order and the New International Economic Order are in essence the same thing. The main difference lies in specificity. The former is more broadly encompassing as it refers to a major shift in the balance of political power; it is associated with global governance. The latter is more specific in that it refers to the global integration of economy, ecology, politics and society. For more information, I suggest reading the following article:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/317376573_New_International_Economic_Order_NIEO_Origin_Elements_and_Criticisms.

³ “Sociocyberneering Education Project”. 2019. *The Venus Project*.

<https://www.thevenusproject.com/become-a-volunteer/sociocyberneering-education-project/>.

⁴ "Aims and Proposals". 2019. *The Venus Project*.

<https://www.thevenusproject.com/the-venus-project/aims-and-proposals/>.

⁵ The quotation can be listened to at the 21:50 mark in the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cn5hS3fzqlk>.

⁶ For further reading, I suggest taking a look at the organization’s book that is being distributed for free, which can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.files.thevenusproject.com/hotlink-ok/designing_the_future_ebook/Jacque%20Fresco%20-%20Designing%20the%20Future.pdf.

⁷ This video presents an introduction to a Resource-Based Economy. It can be noticed that a considerable number of viewers show distrust for this kind of system, commenting as to how it resembles communism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndsWuYfRgjE>.

⁸ The following link reveals a YouTube account that seems to be dedicated to proving that The Venus Project is a front for the New World Order conspiracy:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VenusProjectisNWO/videos>

⁹ Marx, Karl, and Frederick Engels. 1848. *Manifesto of the Communist Party*.

¹⁰ *The Venus Project: Poisonous Neo-Marxist Drivel*. 2010. Video.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3ry_b30srU.

¹¹ Melanson, Terry. 2015. "Automated Opposition: The Technocratic Undercurrent of Zeitgeist: Addendum". *Conspiracy Archive*.

<https://www.conspiracyarchive.com/2015/03/20/automated-opposition-the-technocratic-undercurrent-of-zeitgeist/>.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Although it is not explicitly stated on the organization's website, its understanding of climate change makes it appear as though it supports the anthropogenic global warming theory. Link:

<https://www.thevenusproject.com/multimedia/symptoms-rapid-climate-change/>.

¹⁴ The Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) is among a number of organizations that has disproven the notion that catastrophic climate change will occur as a result of excess anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions. Its website can be accessed via the following link:

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/about-the-nipcc/>.

¹⁵ *Jacque Fresco - Introduction to Sociocyberneering*. 2011. Video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBIdk-fgCeQ>.

¹⁶ Wood, Patrick M. 2015. *Technocracy Rising*. Coherent Publishing.

¹⁷ The Venus Project. 2011. *Jacque Fresco - Technocracy, City Strategies, Sourcing Information*. Video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTEq1joaTWA>.

¹⁸ His explanation can be found at 27:02 into the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBIdk-fgCeQ>

¹⁹ Fresco begins discussing the criticism at 1:03:10 into the video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20_iO0wkLi8.

²⁰ Revenue statements, expenses, assets and legal documents can be found on the following webpage: <https://www.resourcebasedeconomy.org/financial-transparency/>.

²¹ "Jacque Fresco Rethinks the New World Order". 2010.

<http://www.jacquefresco.info/main/publicity/publicity-print/magazines/jacque-fresco-rethinks>.

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