

The Herd.

In the human family, billions of humans use words to communicate. Within the humanities, there are, in excess, 7,000 languages being spoken. Within those 7000 languages, there are intelligent and unintelligent people. People who are not highly educated are often those who learned and are knowledgeable about trades, crafts, farming, construction, and many other aspects of life that are no longer offered in many public schools.

When the President, or one of his allies or critics, speaks, we must also ask what is being heard. Are people hearing the person speak or an interpretation of what that person said, either by the filters in their brains, or were the words subject to the opinions of another? Did the majority of voters run a background check on their candidate? Were the majority of voters even listening to the candidates? Or were they hearing what they wanted to hear, or did their seductive and life-affirming choices distract them so much that they instead chose a liar, unqualified to lead because of his gross incompetence, that somehow got translated into him being honest and believable?

People who speak multiple languages hear words that are not native to them and translate them to their native language; then, to reply, they reverse the process to the language the other person understands best. But oftentimes, significant meaning is lost in translations. The same is true for non-wealthy people talking to wealthy people or poor people talking to privileged people with higher educations. Each translates what they know to what they believe the person they're talking to can understand.

We never meet super wealthy people. We never meet the most intelligent people. We never meet those who head our banks, the hedge fund leaders some invest their money with, or the generals who run our armed forces. Instead, we meet plebes, members of a lower class of citizens given the task of communicating to those like ourselves, and we play the game of who's more intelligent and who knows what's best for us. This master game uses the fictitious information pouring into our minds from the algorithms built into our social media apps, news feeds, internet browsers, and from those who spread that information. Those who agree bolster those spreading the lies, and those who don't spread the lies are shunned, shamed, or ostracized. We learned words from our social sphere as we grew up. Teachers taught us new words, and our vocabulary grew as we did. Science, law, research, space, mathematics, sports, and academia all produce words, sentences, and paragraphs that only make sense to those in the same fields but can seem like a tossed word salad to others.

Hearing computer talk often confuses people. "Open your browser" was a classic phrase often misunderstood, with a technical person believing everyone knew what a browser was, which frequently caused consternation to those with no idea what a browser was.

New generations bring new meaning to old words and acronyms. However, since people tend to stay within their generation, tribe, or neighborhood, new ideas rarely affect old unless there's a reason to reach across multiple groups, generations, or cultures.

Prior generations never believed the government would lie to them. Then, a generation learned that their government had lied to them, and trust was lost.

As the internet grew, many believed it would level many of the educational disparities in the world. While that did happen, early unsecured internet applications brought a pandemic of predators, unfettered lies, meanness, bullies, and hatred. Social media applications became

predators, too, and lied about their hidden algorithms, lack of filters, and built-in agendas used to control their members. Soon, so many lies were being told, and became so rampant and unchecked, that no one knew what was true.

Money and power are addictive to rich, power-hungry people and groups, and those people aim their greed at the most gullible people. Even the best educated middle and upper middle class are considered poorly educated by highly educated people and, therefore, are gullible prey for wealthy, power-hungry, predators.

Keeping people in debt is a near-perfect way to keep people controlled. People never own their homes, and if you doubt that statement, try not paying your utility bills or property taxes. The government's ability to auction your home enhances the effectiveness of its power.

However, those in power know of a trait in their followers that allows them to be controlled. That trait is called anticipatory acceptance, and once people accept the leader's first lie, the second lie is easier to accept, until, finally, everything the leader or his assistants say is anticipated as truth by their followers.

Once the oligarchs, whose fortunes and power never seems to be enough, joined the government, and since those now "broligarchs" control all input to the minds and lives of their followers, including laws, television, radio, social media, banking, taxation, loans, and housing, the herd was finally corralled.

Two words are used prevalently by those in power: obey and control. Consequences for those who refuse to acquiesce are now expected and severe.

Electronic surveillance is surreptitiously deployed within the corral to keep checks on herd members, and those intent on agitation and disruption will be culled from the herd. Convicted

criminals, now pardoned and released from prison, and who are violently sympathetic to upholding the doctrine of those in power, will be utilized as militias as deemed appropriate.

The corral is secure. The herd is caught. The gate is shut and locked. Smaller, rogue herds will take longer to round up, but they will be, and it's only a matter of time. All humans requiring government support for survival will be considered obsolete and culled from the herd.

AI is already firmly established, with its roots embedded deeply, and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to control even if people wanted to. Science is steeped in AI. Robots perform surgeries while being controlled by AI. Phone systems already answer our calls for assistance, and humans are being displaced at record rates, but since those in control are concealing their true intentions, the reporting is stifled. Self-driving cars and trucks are also here, as are the required phone and satellite services to access, control, and maintain them.

This is a long game being played; one that began perhaps five decades ago and is still only halfway through. But soon, many people will have far less control of their lives. Society will no longer have a purpose for many of the eight billion individuals on earth, except those who have found, find, or continue to find, deep meaning in their lives. Only the most powerful will be allowed to incessantly fill their lives with more power, wealth, possessions, control, or any of society's myriad pleasures.

The herd will never be allowed out of the corral. Those still useful for the oligarchs will be allowed to roam outside the corral until they are no longer needed; either by those in control or until AI deems them unnecessary.

Written by Peter Skeels © 3-10-2025