As a general rule Criminal Law seeks to restrain or prohibit wrong-doing & this is its sole purpose. It has no license to restrict the pursuit of good-seeking, as such would be contrary to the moral & practical framework in which it operates.

Civil Law seeks to form a civil order held conducive to the general good. It has no license to restrict or prohibit the pursuit of that perceived good, as again this would be contrary to the paradigm in which it operates.

Religious Law, particularly in the form of Catholic Canon Law & its Protestant variants alone seek to restrict or prohibit the pursuit of that perceived to be good. Its MORAL question is to what extent should the pursuit of good be rightfully restrained? Its MORAL answer, to the extent excess or over-reach in the pursuit thereof, has proven consistently harmful to the individual & collective well-being.

That requires us to enquire into the nature of sin itself; why is it a product of our hunger for good rather than our propensity for wrong or evil? Next question, what are the relative powers of good & evil in humans *specifically?*

Here I find myself confronted with some conundrums & contradictions of popular wisdom. Despite many trying to talk up the dark powers off a hidden axis of evil; humans do not have much natural propensity for intentional wrongdoing or willful evil. *Even when we do wrong by one party it is usually in bid to do right by some other party we give preference to; rather than the wrong of willful malice against the victim. Is misguided or excessive good-seeking;* ***a hidden axis of intentional evil?***

Humans do have some propensity for evil & wrong-doing; independent determinism would be meaningless if we were denied this as one off our options, but our propensity for such seems relatively weak.

Only that which has power can seriously harm us, & while man has some capacity for willful wrong & evil, this drive **does not command a ~sufficient power~** to bring about large scale persistent self-injury. In the Lord’s Prayer **I will fear no evil**; evil does not command sufficient power to be feared.

In the Book of Job; Satan wagers God he can turn Job, a righteous man; into an unrighteous one. God replies go ahead & give it your best shot, I bet you can’t. *(Poor Job, imagine being a pawn in a power play between those two; but most of us are to some extent)*

Satan gives it his best shot & FAILS. Job remains good, righteous & Godly despite the many troubles visited upon him. *So proving even in our most distraught moments our desire to do good & right is consistently stronger than our resorting to wrong & evil; not just in Job but* ***in all of us.***

This being so, how is it the pursuit of good can be more harmful than the pursuit of evil? The rational answer is, only power can do real good or harm;& only man’s natural propensity for good **commands a ~sufficient power~** to do deep & lasting harm if taken to the excess of over-reach.

In this I need examine the Bibles claim all are born sinners *(all are born hungering for that perceived to be good)* & all remain sinners every day of our lives *(all constantly hunger for that perceived good for every moment we live & breathe)*

Yet it is Adam who is accredited as the first sinner, WHY?

Anthropology attests Homo sapiens first emerged with all our hardware formed; all our software installed & inter-actively functional about 150,000 years ago; yet early man is NOT accredited as inherently sinful. Human’s lived a hunter-gatherer surface scavenger subsistence existence little higher than the animals. Early humans accredited as living in a Garden of Eden ~innocence~ at one with the natural world so not a sinner; *although apparently somewhat less happy than advertised; in being determined to exit that state by self-determining beyond & above it.*

This era also raises the question by what standards do we determine our hunger for good to be under endowed, overly endowed, or endowed just right? It seems 20,000 years ago our numbers had shrunk to just a few thousands centered mainly in Africa. Finding the challenge of getting established too tough; humanity came perilously close to becoming disheartened; throwing in the towel & quitting. It seems at that time our hunger for better things proved only barely strong enough to get us over the hump of becoming established as a developmentally based self-determining species.

Yet from the time of Adam our hunger for good has proved problematical & challenging, as it seems to do us as much harm as it does good.

Why are Adam & Eve **pivotal**, at least in our experience & understanding? They were early axial age developer-builder humans who first broke out of the Garden of Eden stage of innocence to progress upwards by beginning to exercise our developmentally based self-determining capacities in some systemically intentional manner. In sum, their pursuit of good had developmentally enhanced power.

Why are we endowed with such deep, strong & persistent hunger for that perceived to be good? It is the basic driver of all our systemic development. Developed agriculture, developed industry, developed philosophy, developed arts, developed social systems, systemic humanities, developed sciences & developed theology would not occur unless we were constantly striving to expand that estate we perceive to be good. In this sense our hunger for good *(SIN)* is **our greatest single asset**; as a developmentally based self-determining species.

Why are the Biblical faiths so jaundiced towards our good drives? Our hunger for good has the power of excess & over-reach so visiting preventable harm, injury & calamity on ourselves. *(While the pursuit of evil only commands sufficient power to do limited damage, the hunger for good commands sufficient power to deliver eternal damnation)* In this sense our hunger for good is **our greatest single liability** as an independently deterministic species.

What happens when your single greatest asset & your single greatest liability are housed together in a single driver or common condition; **our biggest single self-management challenge.**

Management requires addressing just who is responsible for the very existence of the condition, & whether one & the same party are also responsible for its day to day management?

Here we are faced with a division of powers & a division of responsibilities.

We did not create ourselves, nor did we choose to be sinful. The hunger for good is **an endowed condition**; presumed endowed by a Creator *(under intelligent & intentional design theory)* to positively drive our independent determinism’s toward ever higher development.

The Creator or Designer is responsible for the very existence of the condition SIN; not we the created or designed. Yet as we are not controlled puppets but independently deterministic persons; only we can be held responsible or accountable for how we manage the condition on a day to day basis.

This leads to the New Testament concept of **joint & several responsibilities.**

In the Atonement God took responsibility for endowing the condition of sin in the first place, so accounting to little us for the very existence of this challenging condition.

At the same time we were firmly put on notice that we were to be held responsible & accountable for the conditions day to day management, as humans are independently deterministic God could exercise no direct control over that.

Such is the nature of the Atonement of Christ; a compact of mutual respect & consideration between creator & created; **principally a compact of joint & several responsibility** in which each party takes ownership of their respective roles in the troublesome & deeply challenging matter of SIN.

Now to move to more immediately pressing issues...

In recent times progressive human development has borne more positive fruits than negative ones. This has led people to hold sin *(over-reach or excess in the pursuit of that perceived good)* as a diminishing power, made redundant by positive good, so of less & less consequence.

In reality modern advance has proven good to be equally capable of enhanced harm as positive good is capable of enhanced benefice. The power of SIN *(negative good)* has increased ~proportionately~ with increases in the power of more positive forms of good.

We are also at the environmental, fiscal, population, social & practical limits of mass *(self-indulgent)* lateral expansion. As this lateral door closes a new door seems to have opened ~upwards~ in the form of stage by stage progressive higher development. This seems open-ended or proffering some type of vertical infinity; *leading us toward manifest destiny in whatever form that may ultimately take.* Yet interim lateral constraints will incite public discontent while upward development is likely to be too slow & risk-opportunity fraught to appease it.

To continue… we need to change the social understanding first, before we can more successfully address our various accruing problems.

The modern western world is captive to the liberal-humanist ethos, as humans are intrinsically good all we have to do is liberate human pursuit of natural good from irksome restraints (usually Biblical ones) & we **will surely** come out in a good place. *(Wrong actually, we can only come out in the worst place possible)*

The Bible too holds us as intrinsically good. While humans have some capacity for evil, we have to as self-determination is meaningless without a full range of options to choose from. The pursuit of evil needs to be placed on watch because it can be a nasty little sod; but evil is not too great a problem as humans don’t find it a particularly attractive option.

Christ said ~fear no evil~ not least as intentional evil **does not** command a sufficient power to greatly harm you.

On the other hand our desire for good is deeply & strongly ingrained into our very natures.  *It has to be if we are to strive to be a creditworthy species & is* ***thus ingrained*** *under intelligent design theory.*

The same Christ said repent your sins & redeem them; as excess x over-reach in pursuit of that perceived to be good; commands a sufficient power to deliver to **eternal damnation**.

Where Atheists & humanists say the Biblical God is in error as he condemned humanity as inherently evil, they are wrong. The Biblical God did not pronounce humanity as inherently evil, but as inherently sinful. Sin & evil are not one & the same; nor are they mutually interchangeable conditions.

Evil is the pursuit of intentional wrong-doing; SIN is over-reach in the pursuit of more good than we can have, basically an excess of good-seeking.

**Only good has the power**; more critically only the pursuit of that perceived to be good commands a sufficient power **to make us or break us.**

Moderated pursuit of good has produced all the positively beneficial human advances in history. While in a parallel world; over-reach x excess in the pursuit of that perceived good has produced most of the great calamities of history.

The industrial age has been a bridge of transition which increased our capacities so delivering the knowledge age. Now the knowledge age is achieved we do not continue with mass lateral expansion as that would prove disastrous.

Thus secular-humanist desire to build an ever expanding lateral society is dismissed; the Bible holds excess x over-reach in self-indulgent good to be **~mortal sin~** & the road to **~eternal damnation~**

Rather we now take the higher path of progressive vertical development combined with reduced lateral expansion. This is our only hope of a viable future; one offering exciting but deeply challenging prospects.

Thus we disdain ongoing mass lateral expansion to instead focus limited resources on a smaller, leaner, meaner but ~smarter~ society more focused on progressive higher development.

UP IS WHERE HEAVEN IS; thus in doing this we are pursuing manifest destiny & fulfillment of Gods plan for humanity in the last days.

At base our sins are redeemed in the Atonement of Christ; yet this redemption is conditional upon our-selves then restricting our self-indulgent appetites.  *The Atonement is* ***not*** *a free-lunch; but strictly conditional on our-selves attending to that part we alone can do.*

In return we are promised the gift of eternal life. Whether eternal life is spending eternity on a cloud playing a harp; or biologically inter-generational in this world & wider universe is a matter of opinion; but is eternal life either way.

Modern change of direction requires continuing hi-tech development combined with progressive reductions in population mass to take pressure of budgets, practical matters & environment. At time of writing I note the lateral retrenchment of Brexit & Donald Trump heading in the right direction at least generally. I suggest the wider society… GET’S WITH THE PROGRAM.

I believe the Western-Christian world is in the process of one of those NEXUS or ~hinge of history~ events which occur semi-periodically through-out history. These occur when the terms & conditions of human existence change to such an extent; the society has to change its ethos, its understanding of humanities place in the greater scheme of things, & also change the management of its practical affairs. Quite literally ADAPT to the changed paradigm OR DIE!

This future requires combining hi-tech practical & scientific advance to ensure ongoing higher development; while reducing populations, reducing GDP & reducing per-capita environmental impacts to avert lateral social calamity. This is where both Brexit & Donald Trump are generally heading.

I wish to again refute those who hold the Biblical God condemned humanity as inherently evil. He did not; **he judged us inherently sinful.** Such people are misrepresenting the Christian faith; then condemning it on account of their own falsehoods.

In conclusion to reduce the matter to its simplest form…

HE *(high explosive)* has limited explosive capacity; nukes have a lot more power behind them. Don’t worry about the HE; worry about the nukes. Likewise don’t *unduly* worry about evil as that only has limited power to harm us; worry about excess x over-reach in the pursuit of that perceived to be good, as that commands the power to do the greater of the two harms.

Liberal humanists say man is intrinsically good; unfetter the human good drives to let them run free & WE CAN’T GO WRONG. Christians hold ~that is the most wrong force we could ever unleash~

All of our accruing **existential crises** are a product of our SINS; few are the product of humans being intentionally evil.

Humanity has some propensity for intentional evil; yet it is not particularly deep or strong. Thus while a nasty little sod evil commands ~insufficient power~ to cause deep or lasting harm. The Biblical Gods prescription for intentional evil is simple; he just shoots it. *He certainly wouldn’t sacrifice his only begotten Son to redeem it.*

Our hunger for good is another matter; it is deeply entrenched into the very fabric of our natures. It has to be if we are to be of any merit as a creditworthy species; it further has to be ~overly-endowed~ if we are to surmount the many challenges & set-backs of life

Overly-endowed is our greatest single self-management challenge; necessary to enable our independent self-determining function; but regularly visits self-inflicted injury to our-selves.

To quote the Catholic Church, the seven deadly sins are ~1 John 2:16: For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh** and the **lust of the eyes** and the **pride of life**, is not of the Father but is of the world.

In the above scripture, St. John talks about three basic types of sin - The lust of the flesh (gluttony, lust, sloth), the lust of the eyes (greed), and the pride of life (pride, envy, anger).  Overcoming these things should be our life's work.

By comparison the seven cardinal virtues; chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, patience, kindness, humility; are the anti-thesis of excess self-seeking in the pursuit of more good than we can have.

This Catholic list; about says it all really!

We Christians follow a God who gave the Ten Commandments…

1. I am the Lord your God, You shall have no other God before me.
2. You shall not make any graven images of God's creation.
3. You shall not use the Lord your God's Name in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it Holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. You shall not kill.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet anything belonging to your neighbor.

Yet later in the NT He defines sin; the lust of the flesh (gluttony, lust, sloth), the lust of the eyes (greed), and the pride of life (pride, envy, anger).

He then becomes so concerned about the consequences of SIN, he allows his only begotten Son to offer himself up in atonement for our sins. He then further puts us on notice, as He has taken responsibility for creating us as sinful in the first place; **the onus is now on us** to do our half by taking responsibility to best manage the condition of sin on a day to day basis. He further informs us the sins of self-indulgence *(constantly hungering for more good things than we can have)* are a graver danger to our immortal souls than the crimes of theft, rape or murder.

Gluttony is a greater wrong & more harmful than rape-murder… is this God thingy kidding or what?

**He is not kidding**; for if we examine both historical & contemporaneous events; it seems we have visited more harm, casualty & misdirection on ourselves by our relentless driving hunger for more good than we can have; than any **puny** axis of *intentional* evil has ever done.

That does not invalidate the Ten Commandments, as they are clearly the foundation of criminal law & *this worldly* morality. Yet it clearly establishes in a contest between intentional evil & a drive for an excess of good; the excessive pursuit of the good-life does the greater harm of the two. True this revelation on sin comes after the Ten Commandments were given; yet Commandment #1… I am the Lord your God, You shall have no other God before me; allows ongoing revelation from the same font. Revelation is given when our God sees fit to deliver such; which is usually as progress increases human capacity; making us deeply aware of a need to receive a solution to a particular problem.

Simply put… the process of ongoing revelation works in tandem with the progress of man as we stage by stage self-determine towards ever higher independent development.  *Seek manifest destiny independently of the natural world.*  This is the situationally adaptive of an inter-active inter-relational **living God model**. One who responds interactively as humanity development advances.

At base, the last five of the Ten Commandments are the foundation of criminal law.

Do good & right by yourself, by your neighbor & by your community the basis of secular civil law. *This reduces to do that which is good & right in the eyes of a group of fallen sinners.*

Disdain what is good & right in the eyes of fallen sinners; **serve only that which is good & right in the higher trueness of the Biblical God;** the basis of Canon Law.

As we grapple with our accruing & converging existential crises; global warming, environmental collapse, over-population & modern creative accounting just printing money on demand; we cannot fight any so called axis of evil, as no *intentional* evil is being committed. We cannot restrain under criminal law as no designated crime is being committed. We cannot contain under civil law as such advocates doing right by a group of fallen sinners, & doing nothing to cause them let or hindrance.

The Christian faith is the only agency able to address modern crises; restraining SIN is our business; as SIN is the cause of all these ills, only the Christian faith can best manage & restrain them in the future.

Lastly I need to look at the design engineering necessary to bring forth an independently deterministic species like us. While the religious hold intentionally created, & science holds random evolution; it really does not matter much as both require a similar stage by stage progression of events.

1… I first need **host environment** which will allow such a species to exist, **support its existence** & allow it to function independently with some effect. This biosphere *(cradle of humanity)* is such a host site. True others may exist similar to this one; or bringing forth independently deterministic life in some other format. Yet the one we have now if the only one **proven** to exist, all others are speculative.

2… I need **a compact dexterous physical body** incorporating a considerable degree of physical dexterity adaptive to a wide range of situations; not least due to the range of multi-tasking such a species must be enabled to do. Most importantly I need the hands of a toolmaker.

3… I need **a high degree of vulnerability**. Such a species must be physically vulnerable; *there are much more powerful forces than just me in the world*. It must be mentally vulnerable; *I know some things but I certainly don’t know it all.*  It must be emotionally vulnerable; *in order to form meaningful interactive relationships.* It must be spiritually vulnerable to know*; we exist by* ***the Grace*** *of something greater than our mere selves.*

4… Said species must be **big-brained**. Animals only need a brain to attend to matters of immediate moment. An independently self-determining species must be able to see outside of him or her-self; by conceptualizing in developed abstract concepts which also exist external to any material immediacy. A species can only do this with a brain big enough to have considerable surplus capacity.

5… Such a species must have **a motivational driver**; it must be driven in the pursuit of some end-purpose; *sometimes called manifest destiny.* It could pursue intentional evil but that is unlikely to last very long or come out in any happy place. It could affect indifference, but such would be a rudderless ship going nowhere. *Intentional evil at least makes a moral distinction; indifference can’t even do that.*

OK **the only credible *directional* driver**; is endow with a deep driving hunger for that perceived to be good. The Bible makes much of God’s higher love, but a hunger for a greater good & love are pretty much one & the same condition, so mutually interchangeable. The next question is **to what extent** should I *the design engineer or creator,* empower this hunger for that perceived to be good.

If I only give it a small degree of power, there are many set-backs & dissuasions in life which will overwhelm it rendering it ineffective. If I endow if just right; sometimes life is easy sometimes life is very difficult; so endow just right to just which one exactly? The only thing I can do is **overly endow** humanities deep driving hunger for that perceived to be good & worthy *(higher love)* as that is the only driver powerful enough to cover all contingencies.

I am now confronted with the body of Original Sin; not a product of man lusting after evil but a product of **excess x over-reach** in our deep driving hunger for more good than we can have.

People look hopefully for the evil in man; not least as evil is both practically & morally simple to manage… just take it out in the back-yard & shoot it. *Evil would be no loss; no-one would miss it.*

The same people avoid the challenge of Sin; a deep driving hunger for that perceived to be good is essential to our every function as an independently self-determining species. *True SIN has many attendant management problems; but is the* ***best of the design options*** *available for our type of species.*

No matter how much trouble & aberrancy sin visits upon us; we cannot take that which is essential to our function as a creditworthy independent species; take it out in the back-yard & shoot it. There are neither moral nor practical grounds on which such a remedy can stand.

SIN needs a different management ethos; evil we can shoot; sin requires forgiveness, redemption, reform & a changing of our ways. *If all human outcomes are* ***the sum*** *of the ways of the people of which the society is comprised; if you want different outcomes, first redeem reform & change the ways of the people all outcomes are the* ***sum off.***This process of forgiveness & redemption can only be pursued through the Atonement Christ offered on our behalf with his death on the Cross; the necessary reform & changing of our ways only achieved in his Resurrection & triumph over the forces of anti-life, imitation of his ways changes our ways to **God’s true ways** so defeating sin.

People who blame our accruing existential cries like global warming on some hidden but inherent evil in man are wrong. Instead they should go & take a look at their good selves in a mirror if they want to find the culprit. Yet members of all branches of secular civil religion **self-justify themselves** on the grounds I am only trying to do some sort of good here; so all these bad outcomes can’t possibly be caused by me.

Even this Protestant can see the point of the Catholic faith requiring all people confess their sins; & the more they believe they are good people, **the more they should confess.**

In reality, despite variants in administration the Christian faith alone has the capacity to address our accruing existential crises; global warming, environmental depletion, over-population & creative accounting just printing money on demand, et al. Secularism & its attendant civil religions be they socialism, capitalism or liberalism can’t. **The Achilles heel** of all secular codes & civil faiths is they rely on material wellbeing as their underwriter; & where material supply is restricted they have no foundation on which they can stand.

I have no problem with science per se; the 19th century saw Christians & scientists agree the study of science was the study of the practical mechanics of creationism; so there was no inherent conflict. Both require the same stage by stage process of development; neither can prove or disprove the nature of Prime-Cause. This Christian can live with scientists; I need them to validate the technical processes out of which we will build our future; & to validate the technical aspects of environmental decline so we can successfully engage that issue. As a Christian seeking human salvation I have no conflict with science; rather I see scientists as joint venture partners in common enterprise, *more or less.*

My dispute is with the secularists & civil religions that falsely claim science has disproved religion; **it hasn’t.** The reality for the secular world & its attendant civil religions; is all the Kings horses & all the Kings men are not up to the job of effecting a human salvation. **If we want to be saved,** we restore Christianity & members of the faith need be much more confident & assertive in advancing that. *It would also help if we advanced a more solidly & soundly crafted case for such.*

Lastly this is a discussion document & open to inputs from other parties; how is the faith to best-manage SIN in the emerging new paradigm? Not least as while sin with its attendant consequences is a continuous constant in human-nature; we are now at a different level of technical development, which requires some changes in its practical management. ***KM… close.***