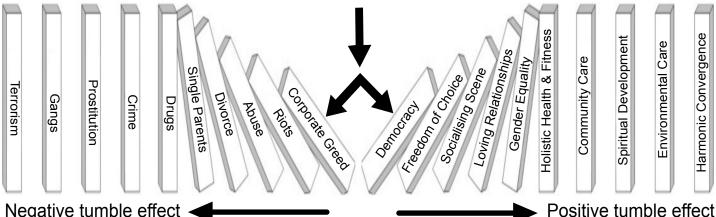
## <u>Domino Effect post World War I & World War II</u>





We find a law in science which not only demonstrates how the world has progressed, but is also the cause of its progression. Newton's Third Law of motion states that: for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. That one action leads to many successive actions and reactions, called a chain reaction, also known as the Domino Effect.

Newton's Third Law and the Domino Effect affects all things in life, from Politics, Corporate Greed, Business, Relationships and personal decisions.

## World War I and II - War Changes People.

We begin looking at how the world has changed and progressed since World War I and II where the world fought against world domination and sectarianism so that we could live in a world of freedom and democracy. Even though the people won their fight, war changes people.

The family unit was turned upside down, as men went to war and the women went to work. The women were re-skilled in manual labour to work in factories and the like. The women workers helped the continuous supply of artillery, weapons and ammunition to the men fighting the war. Some women also joined the armed forces and served their countries in war rooms and intelligence centres breaking codes. Other women joined the Red Cross nursing the wounded or incapacitated as a result

When the war was won, Governments had the responsibility of putting money back to rebuild the country. Their top propriety was to rebuild war-torn towns, create new housing projects and rebuild the workforce.

The idea was to put the war behind them and move forward with a sense of normality. The scars of war for both men and women took its toll on family life. When the men came home from war, they didn't want to talk about what had happened or what they had seen. There had become a strong sense of discipline in family life as a way of coping with every day family life on a day-to-day basis. Reflected in society, as a chain reaction, this family interaction flowed from the family into society.

#### The WORLD WON...

#### Against World Domination and World Sectarianism...

The world had survived world domination and world sectarianism but, as a result of the war, democracy and freedom were stifled. Now there existed a fear of people expressing different views, and a fear of change. However, life could not continue this way and it would only be a matter of time before adults and youths would feel the need to break free and express their stifled emotions and feelings. This is seen in Newton's third Law of motion which shows us that for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

#### World War I and II - Reaction...

The children who grew up with memories of the war needed to express their emotions and feelings, even though their parents dared not talk about the war. Their parents lived in fear of losing control, losing their children or losing life itself, if they dared to talk about the war. But it was young adults and teenagers who would lead the way and so it was, at the beginning of the 1950s one domino fell that began the Rockabilly culture.

#### **Culture Change begins...**

The dominoes had begun to fall, one by one setting a path into the future, with every action bringing a re-action. The destiny of the world has now been set by those who chose to act or re-act.

The rockabilly culture reflected their attitude and gave teenage youth a sense of freedom. The music helped them to break away from the old and tedious and allowed them to burst out with emotion and with that came a new dance style to call their own. The rockabilly culture also made Vinyl records very popular amongst the youth of the early 1950s and with that came the popularity of the jukebox in diners.

As time would show, this was only the beginning. As each domino fell, a change in society would take place and this would be seen with the new era of Rock and Roll. Rock and Roll music became a teen culture with crazy dances, new hair styles, clothes and their own language. The portable record player became popular at beaches and house parties, making it possible to play their hit singles on 45s, one after the other.

Ten years on from the end of the world war it now seemed that war was far from the minds of teenage youth. Rock and roll music gave teenagers a chance to party. Even teenagers who felt alone were also able to enjoy rock and roll, as the portable transistor radio emerged at the beginning of the 1960s. Anyone now could carry a transistor radio in their bag, purse or pocket everywhere they went. An earphone was also the craze when they didn't want others to hear to which songs they were listening.

### A New World of Protests Against War...

As the 1960s emerged and a new domino fell, governments around the world were smothered with protests against the war...

People from all walks of life were soon deployed to war. Governments decided to go to war in Vietnam for fear of Vietnam becoming a communist country. They feared that if communism started in Vietnam that it would spread throughout South East Asia. This fear caused massive protests, and as a result, governments introduced Conscription. Protests came from all walks of life including University students and organized protests influenced by the Indian man they idolised Mahatma Gandhi. The protests were peaceful demonstrations and marches. People were protesting against conscripting boys, chosen by their date of birth. These boys were eligible when they turned 20 years old. These boys would have been born in 1944 to 1945 at the end of the second world war. Youth and mothers' groups "Save Our Sons" protested heavily everywhere. Out of all of the protesting another domino fell, which began the Hippy movement.

**The Hippy Movement begins...** (many dominoes fell during the Hippy period) The youth wanted peace and mothers didn't want their sons coming home in body bags like their mothers before them in the two previous decades of world wars.

New music and bands were emerging in the 60s like the popular 'Beatles' and Folk artists like 'Bob Dylan' who influenced youth, promoting peace and not war.

#### Nicknamed the Age of Flower Power

The Hippy era was nicknamed the age of Flower Power because of its focus on love and peace. The men grew long beards and long hair. The women wore flowers in their hair. The men and women both wore head bands, medallions, jewellery and clothes that showed off their Hippy lifestyle. Hippies wanted to express their freedom and so at home, at parties or at concerts they would drink alcohol, smoke marijuana and walk around nude. They wanted to show their utmost love for each other and so they lived in communes sharing free love with each other. Hippies had respect for mother nature, holistic health and embraced Eastern Philosophies and concepts. They protested against the killing of animals and because they were pacifists wanting global peace, they protested against war. It was during this time that the world was to draw focus on India as they were suffering the worst famine in 20 years. America was asked for \$1 billion in aid to the country. It was a time the world had to take notice.

## Civil Rights & Riots begin...

Another domino fell that began the Civil Rights movement in the mid 1950s and flourished in the 1960s with Dr. Martin Luther King Jnr. at its head. The Father of the Indian independence movement Mahatma Gandhi inspired peaceful demonstrations and marches to protest against discrimination. Near the end of the late 1960s the Black Panther movement infiltrated the Civil Rights movement turning peaceful protests into violent protests. It was not long after that, that Dr. Martin Luther King

Jnr. was assassinated.

It was in 1965 and 1967 that black riots broke out in America. African-Americans had had enough of living in slums, unemployment, poverty, lack of schools and racial discrimination. It was their time to hit back for the injustices they felt were being served to them.

## The Hippy Movement represented Unity, Peace and Love...

The Hippy movement was not just about protests, long hair, smoking marijuana, free love, nudity and wearing different clothes, the Hippy movement represented unity, peace and love of not only humanity, but of animals, nature and the environment. They had a total respect for everything. This caused them to explore holistic healing practices and medicine. Hippies also explored Eastern Philosophies as they seemed to align nature and people's actions and reactions spiritually. This lead them to meditation which became a way of seeking oneness with the planet and the universe. They sought spiritual enlightenment which drew Buddhism into the western world.

It is during the Hippy era that many dominoes fell leading humanity into the future to express their concerns for the individual, the community and planet earth, for the environment; animals; nature, holistic health; love; spirituality and world peace.

# The Hippy Movement Celebrates: The End. Or are they reborn?...

In 1969 the Hippy movement hit the world stage with the Woodstock Festival. More than half a million people gathered in a small town of New York for three days of Rock and Roll music, free love, alcohol, marijuana, nudity, rain and poor sanitary conditions.

Some of the musicians and bands who sang and played at the Woodstock festival were Janis Joplin, The Who, Jimi Hendrix, Joan Baez, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Santana, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Joe Cocker, Blood Sweat and Tears and many more. This music festival was the peak of the Hippy era. In the 1970s, hard time drug addicts with Heroin addictions began to infiltrate into the Hippy movement after the attraction of the Woodstock festival. Many Hippies regarded Heroin as only for junkies and repelled the use of hard drugs. This divided the hippy movement. As time would show, many Hippies who succumbed to hard drugs died from an overdose.

The Hippies of the Hippy movement continued on until the late 1970s and then they just went their separate ways. Some went on spiritual quests, some joined political parties as environmentalists, others creating businesses for renewable energy solutions, others became scientists proving Global Warming etc. Today Hippies of that era are part of the Baby Boomer's of today's society. It is through the Hippy movement that many of our ideals exist today.

#### Women's Liberation Movement begins...

Another domino fell as another protest movement out of the Hippy era was to emerge in the late sixties as the second wave: the Women's Liberation movement. Women's lib protested hard and strong for women's rights. A few of their greatest achievements have come from a great victory for women's liberation. As these victories are now constitutional law for women's rights, for example (Law against Discrimination against women - Law against sexism - Law against racism - Violence against women) these laws were milestone achievements for women's rights. Even in some countries and states women now are paid maternity leave, until they are ready to go back to work. This is another milestone for the movement.

#### Women's Liberation a New Direction...

But not all women have been happy with some of the causes for which the women's lib movement has been protesting and fighting. Except for a select few, some of the causes, other than those stated above, have had the outcome and change that most women have wanted.

Some of the changes sought: women not wanting men to open doors for them and waiting for women to walk through the door first. Some women chose to see this act as sexist, rather than one of courtesy. Also when a man paid for a meal, some women would take this as an insult. These women were challenging other women to dis-empower men. These women hated men generally and wanted pay back. Actions like these eventually caused other women to feel hurt at losing the man's courteous ways. This caused a third wave of feminist rights in the 1990s called (Post-Feminists, Anti-Feminists & Riot Grrrls.) which we will discuss later.

#### **Divorce by Mutual Consent -**

## Consequences that No-one Saw Coming...

Another domino was to fall in 1969 when women won the right to allow couples to divorce by mutual consent. This law has backfired for women, as it has given men the power to 'not' commit in their relationships then walk away when they have had enough. More than ever today, women are living alone or frequently dumped by their boyfriends. Their dreams of getting married, owning a home and having children seem to be fading away day by day. These days, women are aware of their biological clocks in fear of getting too old to bear children.

When the 'mutual consent divorce law' domino fell, passing this law had consequences that not only changed relationships but also changed society as a whole. As a result, many more dominoes fell, mostly with negative influences to escalate and emanate in many directions. For example, the increase of single parent families, since 1960, has increased over approximately **300**%. With this massive increase, many ramifications were to follow, mostly through the children themselves. Children are the most affected through divorce. Young children often feel abandoned or confused. However, teenagers can feel angry and feel the need to blame someone, distrust their parents. Sometimes school work suffers through lack of concentration and sometimes they suffer socially, feeling hurt.

When teenagers or young adults are hurting, they often make bad choices. Today approximately **75%** of teenage pregnancies are adolescents from single parent homes. Approximately **90%** of homeless children come from fatherless homes. Approximately **75%** of children/adolescents in hospital for chemical dependency come from single parent families. Approximately **75%** of teens who commit suicide are from single parent homes. Since 1960, gang membership has increased by over **150%** from kids wanting to rebel against society. They see drugs and crime as a short fix to their problems and state of mind. They may traffic drugs and make money from those who are caught up in the same illusion.

#### **Post Women's Liberation**

As the 1980s approached another domino was to fall, when the Post-Feminist liberation emerged. Both men and women in the late 70s and 80s disliked the woman's liberation campaigner Germaine Greer's and old-fashioned feminist ideas. Not for the empowerment of women, but for the disempowerment of men. Post-Feminists now took issues of equality into the work place, abuse and discrimination, rather than old-fashioned feminist ideas involved with sexuality and reproduction. This later lead to a third wave of feminism in the 90s. Through the ages, governments fearing public reaction meant that societies could pressure governments to make changes. Today's governments are bound by the laws of Discrimination (Sexism and Racism) when they change or add new policies and laws in towns, cities, countries and even world-wide.

## Stepping Out - At the Same Time Fighting for Survival

Another domino fell as the 1980s emerged. Gays & Lesbians saw the opportunity now to join the liberation bandwagon. This liberated them publicly, allowing them to 'come out' and fight for their lifestyle choices, in homes, work and social lives. Now united globally, they campaigned for their cause through public events such as annual Mardi Gras.

In 1981 another domino fell as the "AIDS Epidemic" emerged. The first cases of "AIDS" were among gay men, followed by drug users and the roll-on effect to the community was when it affected blood stocks. This epidemic took many lives and quickly became wide-spread. Promiscuity had become common place within Heterosexual relationships. With the high risk of Gay and Drug users becoming infected, however, now the world was being cautioned to have 'safe sex' and the use of a condom was encouraged on a global scale.

1982 Five years before Harmonic Convergence began, 1982 really showed the true spirit of Humanity. Through fear, emotions, feelings and love of their fellow-man, emotions of the people world-wide were swayed in completely different directions over issues that affected our world's future.

### **Quest for Peace**

In September 1982, one more domino fell. This was to usher in the first International Peace Day celebrated on the 21st September 1982, 37 years on from the end of World War II. The United Nations proclaimed the first Peace Day to be celebrated world-wide, held on the third Tuesday of September each year until 2002 and then to be changed to the 21st of September annually thereafter.

#### 1983 Fear of World War III.

On the 1st September 1983, another domino fell. This time, the world was on edge of World War III. A Korean civilian airliner was shot down by Soviet interceptors on the 1st September, 1983 over the sea of Japan. All 269 passengers and crew aboard were killed. The aircraft was en route from New York to Seoul when it strayed into prohibited airspace around the time of a US reconnaissance mission. While Russia and the USA had urgent diplomatic talks, the world was on the edge of their seat for a whole week, in fear of World War III. It became the hottest world news media topic for that time. For one whole week, the world was in fear of what might happen, as the news reports of retaliation and panic mediation flooded all media.

#### (1984 - 1987) - The True Spirit of Humanity.

In this period of time many dominoes fell to bring out the true spirit of Humanity. To care for their fellow Human beings and to set their sights on a future World of Peace, Harmony and Tranquillity. In 1984 on a UK's BBC TV news report, another domino fell as there were images of millions of people starving to death in Ethiopia.

#### Band Aid... We are the World...

This domino caused Bob Geldof to get together with musicians, for free, to record a song entitled "Band Aid". The song sold quickly and raised £8 million for the Ethiopian Famine.

Another domino fell as Bob Geldof later in July 1985 staged the "Band Aid" concert to raise more funds for the Ethiopian relief. The "Band Aid" 16-hour "super-concert" was globally linked by satellite to more than a billion viewers in 110 nations. The "Band Aid" concert raised more than \$125 million.

Another domino fell as Bob Geldof's song "Band Aid" inspired Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie to get together 47 Musicians in January 1985, and record the hit single "**We are the World**". All money raised also went to the Ethiopian relief.

#### Statement for Quest for Peace...

1st January, 1986 - another domino falls as The International Year of Peace begins.

#### We Hold Hands for Peace...

Another domino, in 25th May 1986. A benefit event called **Hands Across America** was organised in the United States. USA for Africa was to create a human chain where 6.5 million people held hands for fifteen minutes along a path across the continent of the United States. Hands Across America raised \$34 million for local charities to fight hunger and homelessness and to help those in poverty.

#### We Run for Peace...

On the 25th of May 1986 - another domino falls as **Sport Aid - The Race Against Time.** Over 20 million people ran and walked a 10km marathon simultaneously in 89 countries around the globe with exactly the same goal in mind: fighting famine in Africa.

#### We Pray & Meditate for Peace...

19th September 1986 - another domino falls for **The Million Minutes of Peace Appeal**, created by Sister Jayanti for the UN International Year of Peace in 1986. People in 80 countries prayed and meditated towards peace in the world, making a total of 1.34 billion minutes. This project sparked a wave of change.

## All of Humanity Deserves Peace...

January 1st, 1987 - another domino falls as **International Year of Shelter for the Homeless** begins. So before Harmonic Convergence kicks off, a number of dominoes falling around the world have already created a high benchmark set for love of our fellow-man living in unfortunate circumstance, whether poverty, hunger or homelessness. This creates a foundation for a better world towards world peace.

Signed

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