

CONDITIONED RESPONSES & CHOICES

ARE WE THE PRODUCTS OF OUR ENVIRONMENTS? OR ARE WE THE PRODUCTS OF THE EXPECTATIONS WE HAVE OF OURSELVES IN RELATION TO OUR ENVIRONMENTS? AND WOULDN'T THE LATTER SUGGEST THAT ITS POSSIBLE FOR FREEDOM TO BE BORNE FROM CAPTIVITY? BUT HOW CAN THAT BE? HOW CAN ONE BE ENCHAINED WHILE BEING FREER THAN EVER? DO YOU HAVE TO BE LOCKED UP TO BE IN PRISON? OR CAN SMALL THOUGHTS AND LOW EXPECTATIONS LIMIT AND IMPRISON THOSE WHO'VE NEVER KNOWN THE REALITY OF PHYSICAL BONDAGE?....WHERE ARE YOU IN LIFE?...HOW DID YOU GET THERE?...WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THAT PATH?...IF ITS TRUE THAT SOCIETY SHAPES INDIVIDUALS, AND INDIVIDUALS IN TURN, SHAPE SOCIETY, ARE YOU AWARE OF THE FACTORS THAT HAVE SHAPED YOU?...CAN ONE BE SOCIALLY ACCEPTED AND CELEBRATED AS A SUCCESS WHILE BEING A PERSONAL FAILURE? OR BETTER YET, CAN ONE BE SOCIALLY OSTRACIZED AND CASTIGATED AS A FAILURE WHILE PERSONALLY PERSONIFYING SUCCESS?...DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO HATE THEMSELVES? OR IS SELF-HATRED SOMETHING THAT IS UNKNOWINGLY IMBUED WITHIN US?...CAN SELF-DESTRUCTIVE CONDITIONED RESPONSES BECOME THE COMPASS THAT DIRECTS THE WILL AND DEFINES OUR CHOICES? AND IF SO, HOW DO WE GO ABOUT FREEING THE WILL FROM INSTINCTIVELY EXPRESSING THE SELF-DESTRUCTIVE CONDITIONED RESPONSES INSTILLED WITHIN US THRU OUR INTERACTIONS W/THE STIMULI WE'VE RECEIVED FROM THE WORLD?...IN ORDER TO BE TRULY FREE, WHETHER PHYSICALLY BOUND OR NOT, WOULDN'T ONE HAVE TO FIRST BE AWARE OF HOW THE ONE, INFLUENCES THE OTHER?