

The Changing Face of Interconnectedness

By Dawn Abel

The term “interconnected” is used a lot in spiritual circles. It is a term that describes how we are each connected to one another at a quantum level; thus, we share a group mind, are all one, and as a result, our thoughts and deeds influence what happens in the physical and emotional planes as well as the mental and spiritual planes. Quantum physics has proven to some extent that what we do and what we think can have an effect on other life forms through a transmission process similar to radio waves and signals. So when we talk about interconnectedness on a spiritual level, we talk about how we need to be mindful, thoughtful, and careful regarding our opinions and analyses of others such that they carry only our highest intent. The expected end result is that if we practice and share a higher consciousness, then we can successfully change our world for the better. Additionally, if we share a higher consciousness, then in a sense, we are never alone. So with the understanding of this interconnectedness, we are, in fact, connected to others in the physical, via our spirit or essence. The application of this interconnectedness, however, can only be studied in the physical state.

Connectedness automatically assumes physical contact since at the mundane level, we are all physical. Humans assimilate information and energy healing through the body, be it through the physical brain, sensory system, or through our cells. We can measure information and energy changes within the brain and body using a variety of scientific instruments and medical devices. So in a sense, while our group mind may be interconnected, it is the measurement of the effect of this interconnectedness on the physical body and on the physical planet that provides us with detailed information regarding the effectiveness of our shared thoughts and values. So we must have physical contact to effectively measure and understand how our applied consciousness is changing the physical world - the world we wake up to and function in on a daily basis.

Up until the mid-20th century, we were all physically connected through our contact with extended family, community, and work. We interacted with one another, and our ability to harmoniously work together and successfully interact was imperative for survival. Soon, we were traveling abroad and able to interact with other cultures. The ability to travel provided different cultures with opportunities to spread out and establish roots in different communities. In many countries, people found themselves living and interacting with other cultures. It required the development of new sets of values to successfully connect with strangers in a strange land. It hasn't always been easy, particularly when physical contact resulted in prejudice.

Today, however, with the advent of cell phones, teleconferencing, and the Internet, there is no longer a need to connect in the physical. In fact, more and more people are alienating themselves from physical contact and choosing to connect via radio and electro-magnetic waves only. This raises an interesting conundrum: Many people, particularly the younger generation, are avoiding physical interaction in favor of telecommunications. They have lost their physical connection to the Earth and to each other. More and more of them no longer feel it's necessary to experience connectedness through physical contact, be it with nature, family, co-workers, or even friends. Even in social environments, they no longer interact with each other, as witnessed by people who are on cell phones endlessly whether at social events, dinners, or at home. The sharing of group mind no longer seems to have physical implications because the necessity of the physical experience and the need to apply our group mind at the physical level is gone.

We have witnessed civilization moving from an agricultural age, marked by extended families in close proximities, to an industrial age marked by corporate interaction and travel, to a technological age, marked by telecommunications and a withdrawal from the physical manifestations of our connectedness. The questions this raises are numerous. Will this withdrawal from physical connectedness benefit humanity if less people have to interact physically? It would definitely eliminate the physical closeness that both endears us to one another and alienates us from others. If so, is it a sign of an evolving change in our state of connectedness and consciousness?

Without physical interaction, we eliminate physical connectedness. Could the next age, sometimes called the biotechnology age or space age, bring us to the point where we no longer need each other physically to assert our group consciousness for survival? With our current technology, we will have eliminated the need for human labor. Will test-tube babies take over a function once mandated by physical connectedness, or will bionics and artificial intelligence replace humans and the human experience? Technology is progressing to where humans may no longer have to face personal challenges; they could conceivably spend more time in spiritual practice, or die from gluttony or boredom. Will humans cease to interact on the physical in favor of thought transmission only? This may be the next human experience.

If we are moving into another age, it is quite possible that the human race will make a major evolutionary step that will be marked by pure consciousness only. If our physical experiences currently restrict physical contact and interconnectedness--whether it be our prejudices and inability to process and assimilate the higher consciousness of the group mind or our growing alienation from the physical experience as a whole--then it is conceivable that the human race is moving away from the physical to a pure interconnected-consciousness state. Regardless of which mindset you fall into: either the physical mind that has continued to plague the planet by not assimilating the group mind and changing for the better, or the non-physical mind that has progressively avoided physical interaction using non-physical communication and artificial intelligence, it appears that we're all moving in the same direction; the termination of physical connectedness into an age of interconnected mindfulness.