



The Luminous Child

One of my favorite qualities about the chiropractic profession is that it is not easy, perhaps is impossible, to control from the top down. You will never find chiropractors walking in lockstep like you will other healthcare professions. When the 2020 lockdowns were imposed on businesses and lay people across the world, it became apparent how true this was; how chiropractic professionals were among the most likely to be found speaking their minds and acting in the freedom of their conviction, despite the widespread cultural fear of consequences, taboo and authority.

The reason for this deep respect for freedom in the chiropractic profession can be found in its philosophy and approach to health which is grounded in a vitalistic principle of life. When you take this vitalistic principle to its logical conclusion—that life flows from above-down and from the inside-out, and that an innate intelligence exists throughout all of Nature’s operations that is infinitely more wise than the human educated mind—then it naturally leads one to both cherish the expression of this wisdom within each soul, and to be simultaneously averse to any form of stringent control imposed on others.

A simple way to understand how the chiropractic philosophy became so distinct and separate from other healthcare professions, is to realize how over its many long years, it never chose to treat the body as a machine. And so it became deeply understood that trying to impose a one-size-fits-all mechanistic approach onto people’s biological health and well-being is not only futile, but is debased from the truth of reality. One might go further to say that it becomes a responsibility then, to resist such a cold standardized approach to health out of a respect for the belief that life and health flows non-mechanistically from an innate intelligence which reciprocates to our curiosity, love, and appreciation—not our desire for control.

It is because so many modern health professions have adopted the idea that the body is a “machine” that now our humanity and love for one another in the realm of healthcare (and more generally in all spheres of life) has become deviated by the arrogant notion that we might solve our human and planetary problems through greater and greater control over one another, as though we each might be “correctly configured” from the outside-in as machines. I would go further to suggest that this old metaphor of treating biology as a machine has itself fostered the actual conditions for the educated mind to become machine-like in ‘its’ nature, and therefore subject to easier external manipulation and control.

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So I think at this time in history we are called more than ever to re-discover what the human being truly is if not a sophisticated biological machine. Therefore the cover of this issue of Pathways is called Coherence. Not because you will find the ultimate answer to this question in these pages, but because the idea of human Coherence offers one of the surest foundations for a sane and natural approach to health, parenting, and family well-being that is cleared of the confines of the mechanistic assumptions that have dominated the past. I would also say that this idea of biological coherence represents perhaps the foremost quality to protect in our species, which no machine of any kind can ever possess or replicate, which is the immediate, instantaneous, and direct communication with the loving Wisdom and animating force of life.

So my hope as we enter the age of AI (what I like to call the “computer 2.0”) and the advance of robotics and sophisticated digital systems—all things that may be used for good or ill, for greater freedom or worsening systems of control—is that we remember that the human being is ensouled, and is therefore infinitely beyond the ability to overpower and control. And that no matter how enraptured the educated mind becomes with its tools and inventions, the greatest technology to ever exist will always be the living breath of Nature’s intelligence, her rhythms and her divine spark, directly imbued inside each of her luminous children animating the wisdom, from above-down, and from the inside-out.

By John Ohm

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