



/ The slicing of our minds

Space that was the vast nature once, is now at a premium. We also carry one in our pockets, the hoardings beckon, the TV fills up our rooms, there are also crowds and buildings that don't allow us to see far.

We remain captive in that cycle or orbit.

We establish our '*vantage*' and justify the choices we make even as the choices are thrown at us and we don't really make.

This is the story of how opinions are '*formed*' not organically any more and more appropriately in the tech driven world are '*farmed*'. So who is wagging whom?

VANTAGE > VISTA > VISION > VIEWPOINT

Six-Sigma of Happiness

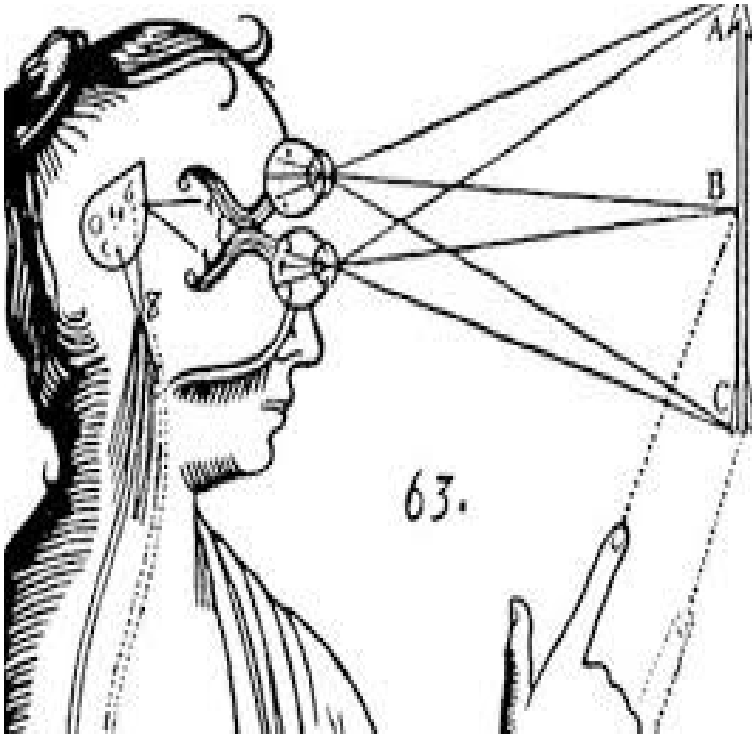
Where one is at any given time, is her or his vantage, that lends to her or him the vista or view that brings the vision to use and culminates in the viewpoint.

The other challenge that our lives face is the slicing of our minds that is the other conspiracy unleashed basically to justify the short circuiting of our minds and rewiring it to align with the new-tech. Thus Multi-tasking that is now celebrated, is the slicing of our attention spans in other words. We discussed that too above in our essay, "A street car named 'Desire'".

In the story of the Pied Piper, it is technology that has taken our mind for a walk. The truth is that as much as we think, we actually do not think any more than our vista or vision allows us to think. That vision has been taken for a walk by the technology around us. The AI, VR etc

We have been mind-mapped and have lost our own mind-share that now gets computed as the stock price of the Technology companies at NASDAQ and NYSE. That price of stock is actually the price of our mind-share.

That sublime conspiracy was unleashed amongst others by MTV. Multiple unrelated images were cut pasted in a 2 minute video.



This was new media.

It clipped and shortened our attention spans. While slicing and cut pasting of media, news, social media and films is on, it keeps us running around musical chairs.

A PowerPoint is another tool of suggestive psychology as the slides shuffle thick and fast, there is little time to ponder or reflect on the attendant or sublime issues.

There is a short circuit in our abilities to discern carefully.

So the Vantage, Vista, Vision and Viewpoint have been held captive.

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Image by: Gerd Altmann, Pixabay

Engagements of all kinds are transactions.

Technology has developed an algorithm to leash us all in. If we don't remain watchful, we get transacted and consumed by it. It then makes us create what 'it' wants us to create. It takes away from us what 'we' want to create.

And the piper is afoot!

Transactions of any kind only conform to 4 archetypes. These are: Empathy (involving mutualism), Sympathy (involving comfort), Apathy (involving dispassion) or antipathy (involving phlegm and hostility).

There is not another type that you engage with to buy anything or meet anyone or go anywhere.

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So! Is technology a bad thing?

Certainly not.

Certainly not, if we seek from it, rather than get soaked in it.

What do we seek?

Ah! that is what the Six Sigma of Happiness ahead will reveal.

Arthur Conan Doyle, created the fictional character of Sherlock Holmes waxes on this.

In "A Study in Scarlet," Holmes makes a remark that the surface of the earth is flat and that the sun goes around it.

Dr. Watson the ADC to Sherlock, expresses surprise that Holmes is ignorant of Copernican theory and the composition of the solar system.

Dr. Watson protests and corrects him. "But that's not true Sherlock"

"What of the deuce is it to me?" he interrupted impatiently: "you say that we go round the sun. If we went round the moon it would not make a pennyworth of difference to me or to my life."

Isn't it true that the Copernican theory is useful to NASA and it is for them to worry about. Its true too; that the political ideologies fought in the parliaments have made bitter enemies out of friends on the street.

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Holmes explains that he does his best to forget any information that is not relevant to his existence. "You see" explains Sherlock, "I consider that a man's brain is like a little empty attic, and you have to stock it with such furniture as you choose"

"It is a mistake to think that that little room has elastic walls and can distend to any extent."

Depend upon it there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge or piece of furniture you forget something that you knew before or remove something to make space."

The point being minimalism that keeps life functional.



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Most folks recognize the wardrobes that they buy from.



Only they cant believe the wardrobe they buy for.

It calls for making space so that our vantage expands rather than allow all and sundry in.

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So let the sun float in its trajectory and imagine that you split the cosmos into two equal halves from where you stand.

We do have the option to go about the business of life, frenzied and raising dust, until how Shakespeare interjects us, “way to dusty death!”

However, as humans we are in search of an excuse to justify our existence. That excuse and the expansion of our appetite is in keeping with the limitlessness of the universe even as we obfuscate or complicate and remain in denial over our limited vantage or time here and hence the fog around our purpose and our desires.

In some ways and at a subliminal level, our desire to hoard is also born out of our need for reassurance that we will live for ever and defeat time.