

(2025 July 03) Donald - Resistance is Resilience- Wilbert (Planet:Critical)

https://youtu.be/jG0H_sG8CKs

[My comment to this episode:

I agree with other commentors that this has been one of the very best Planet: Critical podcasts.

It feels particularly poignant to have finished watching it just before learning that a few minutes earlier the US House of Representatives had voted to pass the most anti-environment bill in history, a glaring, blatant expression of oppressive/repressive technocracy. Resistance and resilience, indeed.

So good to hear again from two of the most articulate speakers for "our side." All those tags like rights of nature, biocentrism, culture of respect, community, the commons -- spoken not as buzzwords or over-worked outdated ideas, but as meaningful terms in a living language of a vital, growing movement.

The polycrises of the present brought center stage by climate collapse are not altogether new. Many were being recognized half a century or so ago, when many of us were pushing for bioregionalism, sustainability, legal standing of trees and other natural beings. Then as now, back-to-the-land notions were being revived (as they had been repeatedly in western culture since even before the Industrial Revolution and original Diggers, as Max and others have long pointed out).

Rights of nature, biocentrism, culture of respect, the needs and methods for networking among disparate communities, were being worked out then, as they are again now. Finding ways to go forward in acknowledgment, not repression, of cultural and personal differences were important then too (thanks to Max for mentioning in this regard Noel Ignatiev's *How the Irish Became White*, a seminal work for many of us.)

Rachel's statement that "The only world that is sustainable is hyper-local" captures what may be one of the most important lessons from that era when today's digital technocracy was just beginning to flex its bionic muscles. Proto tech-bros like Stewart Brand, who had their Birkenstocks on both sides of the fence, have been replaced by far more sinister billionaire figures in a far more implacable political economy, one in which (as the speakers note) the need for bold, creative individuals in resistant communities may be greater than ever; for, as Morpheus said:

"The Matrix is a system, Neo. That system is our enemy. . . . You have to understand, most of these people are not ready to be unplugged. And many of them are so inured, so hopelessly dependent on the system, that they will fight to protect it."]