CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE MONIED AND POWER POSSESSED



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"We'll be Watching you" [download music video at www.finalcycles.org]

A short drive from Sayulita to Punta Mita [AKA Bill Gates' Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita] one finds a typical walled in, ultra secure, extremely expensive, very exclusive vacation enclave. Located on a private 1,500-acre quasi-jungle peninsula in Mexico's Riviera Nayarit, it is surrounded on three sides by 9.5 miles of Pacific Ocean beaches and coves including Litibu bay. Once inside the gate, it is hard to distinguish it from any other preferred hangout of the rich, famous, and otherwise "influential". Two Jack Nicklaus designed golf courses, ten tennis courts, top-shelf luxury hotels, and 15 high-end residential communities offer seemingly endless aesthetic bliss to those who desire nothing less.

Like all other planetary treasures that have been bought up and then restricted, monetized, and otherwise exploited, the Gates project is juxtapositioned against random garbage heaps along access routes, highly visible regional poverty, and loss of specie habitat sacrificed for elite playgrounds.

Gates purchased the resort and adjacent development property for \$200 million in 2014 along with Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, a Saudi Arabian billionaire, who appears to be connected to Gates' ongoing acquisition of other *Four Seasons* branded properties. Gates' involvement triggered a tidal wave of investment in the region, which was once known for its iconic beaches, eco-friendly water sports, and charming villages. The result has all but guaranteed destruction of the pristine natural beauty, local culture, inclusive access, and biodiversity, which arguably were the original attraction.

Most of the multi-generational locals disappeared after cashing in and moving on. Some were forced to sell or relocate by a corrupt system that benefited the powerful and well connected when property values skyrocketed. Access to federally owned "surf beaches" is mostly prohibited to common people with the exception of those fortunate enough to be hired as servants inside the wall. The free spirited pescadores (fishermen) were also "encouraged" to relocate – the so-called "lucky" ones gave up their daily trade to become employed trabajadores (workers) for seasonal "sport" fishing enthusiasts.

So how does this relate to the global plastic waste crisis?

The plastic waste stream generated in Punta Mita is "supposedly" mitigated by recycling efforts. It takes little research to know that recycling entire plastic waste streams does not work – look no further than the local dump. For decades prior to China's 2018 import ban on U.S. plastic waste, the *American Chemistry Council*, et al, maintained the scam that recycled mixed category plastics (eg. polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, poly-vinyl-chloride, polyamide, polyethylene terephthalate) could compete with virgin plastic.

Bill Gate's and those running his operations could easily discover the undeniable failure of the plastic recycling system, which they currently hang their environmental hat on. But then, the gig would be up. "Out-of-site out-of-mind" reflects a state of consciousness often associated with power and greed.

The Bill Gates' of the world cannot avoid exposure to micro and nano plastic particles, which are in their bottled water, the food served at their exclusive restaurants, and every breath of air taken inside and outside their luxurious rooms. Although the wealthy create more plastic waste than those at the bottom, it is a mute point. There is no getting around the fact that there is only one biosphere and all life forms are in it equally - together. What happens to the plastic waste in Hann Bay, Dakar, Senegal, undoubtedly impacts the restricted beaches at *Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita* ("I Saw it With My Own Eyes" music video can be downloaded at www.finalcycles.org).

There are no "special" life support systems for ultra high net worth folks. If they are counting on a ticket to Mars, it may be worth considering; we're not there yet and plastic waste will be there when they arrive (unless Messrs. Bezos, Branson, and Musk have something up their sleeves, which they haven't shared with those being left behind).

Footnote:

There's also the issue of how to best manage the very limited supply of local potable water in Mexico's coastal communities. Does it really make sense to water the golf courses at Punta Mita and Litibu when survival for residents of adjacent communities is at stake? My casa in neighboring Sayulita went without any reliable water service from March 2021 until well after the rains came in June. For poorer communities closer to Mr. Gates the drought has been even more challenging - there you find residents displaying signs asking tourists to "Please bring water".

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For more information about the plastics waste crisis and the collapse of the biosphere, visit www.finalcycles.org