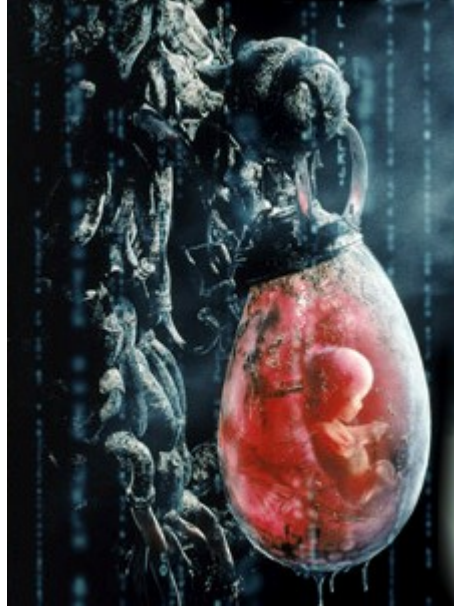


## -- Slavery --

You think that you are free?



**By David Preussen**  
**2007**

Most people think of slavery as something humans force upon each other, something based on chains, cages and such things. Many are not even aware that there are many different kinds of slavery and that most of them are not based on what humans do to others but our weakness of mind.

Generally spoken, being a slaves means being bound to slavish things, slavish things for example are desire, servitude, or short; anything that restrain us in our freedom. By slavery I make a distinctions into two different kinds of slavery; internal- and external-slavery. Internal-slaves are those that are slaves to their own desires and impulses, those that got enslaved by fellow humans or other external factors not in their control are external-slaves. Internal-slavery arises out of a weakness of mind, external-slavery out of dependence.

*“Some things are in our control and others not. Things in our control are opinion, pursuit, desire, aversion, and, in a word, whatever are our own actions. Things not in our control are body, property, reputation, command, and, in one word, whatever are not our own actions. The things in our control are by nature free, unrestrained, unhindered; but those not in our control are weak, slavish, restrained, belonging to others. Remember, then, that if you suppose that things which are slavish by nature are also free, and that what belongs to others is your own, then you will be hindered. You will lament, you will be disturbed, and you will find fault both with gods and men. But if you suppose that only to be your own which is your own, and what belongs to others such as it really is, then no one will ever compel you or restrain you.” — Epictetus, Enchiridion (55-135b.c.)*

Sadly, today we are all slaves in one way or another. External-slaves to usury, interest and the plutocratic systems that were forced upon us and internal-slaves to our desires, addictions, wishes and last but not least, instincts. Infact I believe that some races were in their entire history never free, not because others enslaved them but because they never reached the required self-control and awareness level to gain freedom from their desires and low-level instincts. As long as one is driven by factors like hunger, thirst, and other desires he is not free for such a man does not do things out of free will but of want and/or need.



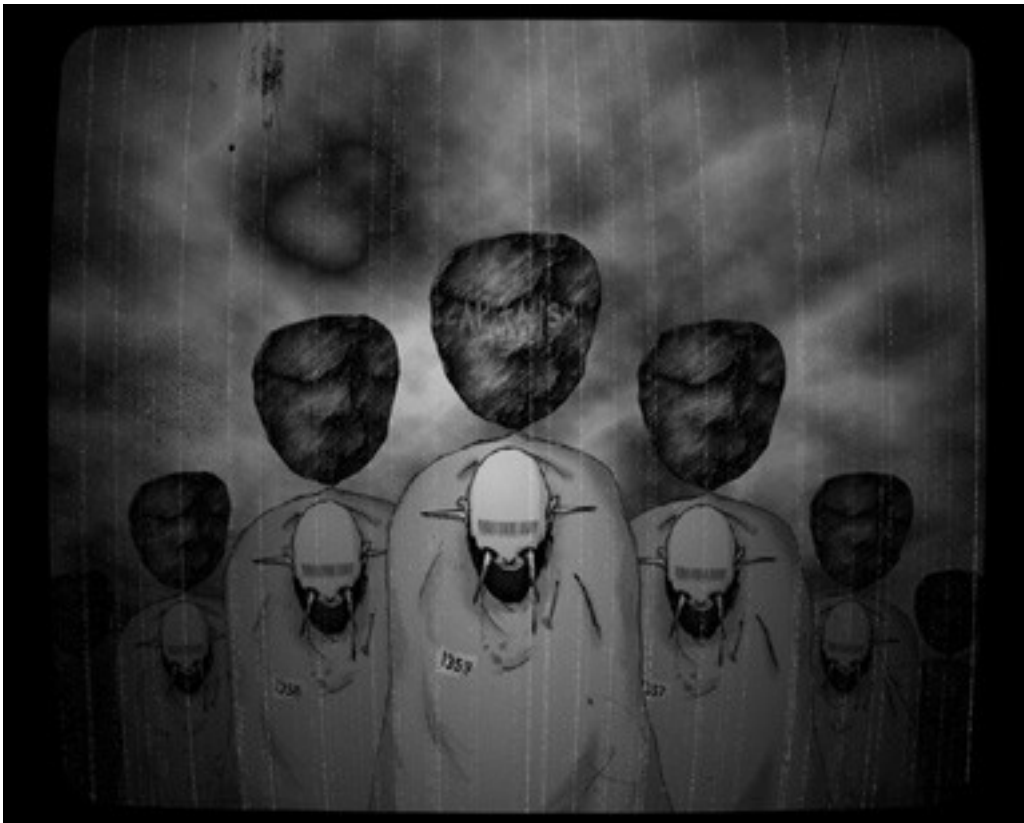
For example, a man does not usually go on a toilet because of his free will, a man goes there because his body commands him to. A man only following the commands of his body and instincts is simply in no way more free than a man following the commands of his master for a servant is a servant no matter whom he serves. It's the same with hunger, thirst, sexual desires, or addictions, someone addicted to hard drugs like heroin for example is no less a slave than an externally-enslaved African was some centuries ago.

Animals therefore are never free for animals are only driven by needs and wants. Being free requires free will and free will requires freedom from needs and wants. Full freedom all of the time is therefore an illusion, a dream, because as long as we are bound to our slavish body we have to do slavish things just to stay alive. Having freedom from desires and wants for most of his time is the best a human can hope for.

*“Man, in order to think, in order to feel himself free, in order to become man, must be freed from the material cares of daily life.” — Aristotle*

Even though the media and “education” tells as the opposite, I believe in today’s world we are more slaves than at any other time in history. We only don’t wear visible chains anymore! Not so long ago most people were independent, even most peasants were independent to some degree. They were not rich but independent and self-sufficient. A man was rather poor but independent than a servant! That was before advertising, centralisation and consumerism destroyed the social and economical structure of society.

True happiness is something that arises from a certain state of mind or being, not external gods. Trying to fill the emptiness inside with external gods only leads deeper into slavery. Just ask a drug addict!



Today we are all servants, the middle class is dying and all the wealth is centralised in fewer and fewer hands. A “free market” and all those things are mere illusions, no matter what we do we serve the people which control the access to resources and wealth. Instead of cages and chains we got interest, taxes, inflation, desires, wants and needs to keep us down.

And it gets worse, our world rulers are currently replacing those people and races that reached the required level of awareness to gain some freedom from their desires, wants and impulses with those that have not. Eternal-Slavery, external and internal, seems to be what they have in mind for the world.

*“It is characteristic of a tyrant to dislike every one who has dignity or independence; he wants to be alone in his glory.” — Aristotle, Politics*

