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**FOREWORD**

Shri Sansar Chandra has attempted, in this work, an unorthodox solution to hit at the root of the cause of corruption. The methods suggested are no doubt going to be controversial and there may be opposition to such a proposal from many sections of the society.

It may even be argued that resorting to such a solution like abolition of the right to inherit property from the parents may even act as a disincentive for production of goods and creation of wealth.

But all the same, it raises interesting points for debate.

Today, corruption is all pervading. Despite the Laws and several anti-corruption bodies created with all good intentions, corruption is only increasing in leaps and bounds. The canker of corruption is eating into the very vitals of the society.

In such a frustrating atmosphere, Shri Sansar Chandra's unorthodox views should not be rejected with cynicism. The subject deserves serious debate.

  
(D.R. Kaarthikeyan)

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## FOREWORD

Shri Sansar Chandra, the self styled Lok Doot, shows his concern for humanity by attempting this very short treatise, with several propositions which are bound to be controversial. They become controversial basically because they stand against the prevalent and conventional wisdom and practice.

This book is an attempt to fighting corruption in an unconventional manner. He makes out a case to show that the accumulation of unearned and undeserving wealth inherited is the main cause of corruption and greed. He says there is a contrast between the "Right to Property" and "Right to Inherited Property".

It will not be out of place to quote from a report, which was carried on page 11 of the Times of India, New Delhi, on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2002. It reads as below:

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## QUOTE

**“US millionaires protect children from ‘affluenza’”****By John Harlow**

“LOS ANGELES: Pity the poor rich kids. Up to one in five American millionaires is limiting his children’s legacies to “middle-class” levels, according to a new study of wealth.

“From plutocrats such a Bill Gates of Microsoft and Jim Stowers, the Kansas financier, to the Hollywood elite of Jamie Lee Curtis and Catherine Zeta-Jones, the wealthy are taking steps to ensure their children do not fall victim to “affluenza” – the moral, emotional and practical problems associated with having too much money.

“The beneficiaries have been American charities, which report an average annual rise of 15 percent in bequests during the past decade to record 12 billion pounds in 2000. This is money that would once have been largely preserved in family trusts.

“*Wealth in Families*, by Charles W. Collier, a Harvard University fundraiser, notes a philosophical split between East Coast families such as the Kennedys and the Rockefellers, who see wealth as their children’s birthright, and the new entrepreneurs and celebrities, many based on the West Coast, who fear the impact of money on their offspring.

“Collier estimates that up to 600,000 of America’s 3.2 million millionaires will give away the bulk of their fortunes for fear of spoiling their children. “About 90 percent of the people I deal with are concerned about this vexed question, which did not exist 10 years ago,” he said. “The new rich want their children to enjoy a middle-class lifestyle, enabling them to enjoy happy marriages and raise happy kids.”

“How much money to leave is a lively subject for discussion around the tables of the new rich. Collier said families worth up to 20 million pounds tended to leave their children 1 million pounds each with which to buy a home and fund education; those with 72 million pounds or more considered 7 million pounds sufficient; those with old-money pass on more, believing their children are trained to deal with it.

“Jeremy Brighton, a sociologist at Southern California University, said the West Coast rich were different from their East Coast forebears - partly because many were entrepreneurs who derived satisfaction from making money, not spending it. Many had been brought up in the 1960s with liberal guilt about money, he said.

“That is why Bill Gates, the richest man in the world, said he would not leave his family more than \$ 100m. He and his wife Mclinda do not want their two children to live a paranoid,

pointless life. This is true of an increasing number of newly wealthy people beyond New York and Washington.”

“The message has reached Hollywood, too. Curtis, who has two adopted children with her husband, film director Christopher Guest, says she wants to protect Anie, 15, and Thomas, 6, from affluenza: “I want them to have enough money to pay a restaurant bill, not buy the restaurant to fire the waiter”. Susan Sarandon, who has two sons, Jack and Miles, with fellow Hollywood actor Tim Robbins, said: “Money addles the brain. I see enough damaged Hollywood brats around us to see what happens when parents are content to show their love posthumously”.

“Michael Douglas and Zeta-Jones are taking a different route with their son Dylan, whose christening presents included a 100,000 pounds charity foundation to teach him how to give away money. “We shall see how he deals with this duty before giving him any more”, Douglas said recently.

“Giving away money can have fortunate consequences. Kathleen Giacomelli, 40, the daughter of Jim Stowers, admitted she was “surprised” when he gave away the family fortune to build a cancer hospital. She appreciated the gesture, however, when she was diagnosed with the disease and became one of the hospital’s first patients on its opening in November.”

UNQUOTE

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The author points out that "the unearned money inherited, instead of benefiting the children, acts like poison for them. Such children may get all the physical comforts and luxuries of life, but get no contentment in life. The children of poor parents do not get equal opportunities for their development. The origin of all the economic vices is in the tendency of collection of infinite wealth and property. The principle of Heirship of Property to one's descendents is not in harmony with the principle of "Equal Physical Opportunities".

He asks, "if your child is on the right path, why accumulate wealth and if he is on a wrong path, why then?" He says, the State shall have to guarantee equal physical opportunities because people start accumulating wealth due to fear of financial crisis and untimely death.

In arranging a marriage, the qualities and flaws of the bride and the bridegroom are given secondary importance and the sum of dowry has the decisive role in fixing a marriage. The terrible evil practice of dowry system came into existence because of the wrong philosophy of handing over wealth to descendents.

A person does not have to work to inherit wealth. The psychological effect is the same as that of getting money without efforts by getting it in lottery or a game of gambling. The root of all the economic crimes is the supposition that one must accumulate wealth for generations to come.

In an ideal situation, all the economic needs of the children like Education, Medical Care, Food and Clothing, shall be fulfilled by the Government.

From Vedic times efforts have been made to diminish boundless accumulation of wealth and the corruption originated due to this tendency. Accumulation of more money than what is needed is described as wrong and it was enjoined on every rich person to donate for charity and to lead a life of austerity.

The author says, human history witnessed time and again that those people who accumulate a lot of wealth and hand it over to their descendents, hardly lived to see their children spoilt and ruined. The boundless wealth left for children acts as poison for them and causes their destruction.

Death is a certainty and a person does not take wealth along with him.

If and when there is a Third World War, all life on earth may perish. Mankind's existence and life span are negligible in comparison to universe.

When there is so much uncertainty, why this greed for accumulation of tainted money?

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Lord Krishna is quoted from Gita: "Donation is pious, which is given after taking into consideration the place, the time and the property of the taker. It is a sense of duty without expecting any thing in return."

However revolutionary and controversial some of the observations and recommendations of Shri Sansar Chandra may appear to a casual reader, this book presents an entirely different perception and an entirely different approach to curb the menace of corruption, which is posing the biggest danger to good governance and civilized existence for every one.



(D.R. Kaarthikeyan)



INTERNATIONAL

# US millionaires protect children from 'affluenza'

By John Harlow

**LOS ANGELES:** Pity the poor rich kids. Up to one in five American millionaires is limiting his children's legacies to "middle-class" levels, according to a new study of wealth.

From plutocrats such as Bill Gates of Microsoft and Jim Stowers, the Kansas financier, to the Hollywood elite of Jamie Lee Curtis and Catherine Zeta-Jones, the wealthy are taking steps to ensure their children do not fall victim to "affluenza"—the moral, emotional and practical problems associated with having too much money.

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West Coast, who fear the impact of money on their offspring.

Collier estimates that up to 600,000 of America's 3.2 million millionaires will give away the bulk of their fortunes for fear of spoiling their children. "About 90 percent of the people I deal with are concerned about this vexed question, which did not exist 10 years ago," he said. "The new rich want their children to enjoy a middle-class lifestyle, enabling them to enjoy happy marriages and raise happy kids."

How much money to leave is a lively subject for discussion around the tables of the new rich. Collier said families worth up to 20 million pounds tended to leave their children 1 million pounds each with which to buy a home and fund education; those with 72 million pounds or more considered 7 million pounds sufficient; those with old money

### BIGGEST DONORS

- **Bill Gates (Computers):** 1.4bn pounds to health research
- **Jim Stowers (Finance):** 780m pounds to health research
- **Gordon Moore (Computers):** 214m pounds to scientific research
- **Bill Coleman (Computers):** 178m pounds to University of Colorado
- **Ted Turner (Media):** 170m pounds to peace studies

pass on more, believing their children are trained to deal with it.

Jeremy Brighon, a sociologist at Southern California University, said the West Coast rich were different from their East Coast forebears—partly because many were entrepreneurs who derived satisfaction from making money, not spending it. Many had been brought up in the 1960s with liberal guilt about money, he said.

"That is why Bill Gates, the richest man in the world, said he would not leave his family more than \$100m," said Brighon. "He and his wife Melinda do not want their two children to live a paranoid, pointless life. This is true of an increasing number of newly wealthy people beyond New York and Washington."

The message has reached Hollywood, too. Curtis, who has two adopted children with her husband, film director Christopher Guest, says she wants to protect Annie, 15, and Thomas, 6, from affluenza. "I want them to have enough money to pay a restaurant bill, not buy the restaurant to fire the waiter." Susan Sarandon, who has two sons, Jack and Miles, with fellow Hollywood actor Tim Robbins, said: "Money adds the brain. I see enough damaged Hollywood brats around us to see what happens when parents are content to show their love posthumously."

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Giving away money can have fortunate consequences. Kathleen Giamcormell, 40, the daughter of Jim Stowers, admitted she was "surprised" when he gave away the family fortune to build a cancer hospital. She appreciated the gesture, however, when she was diagnosed with the disease and became one of the hospital's first patients on its opening in November. (The Sunday Times)

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