

dominated by conflict. "It's a little embarrassing that after 45 years of research and study, the best advice I can give people, is to be a little kinder to each other." — Aldous Huxley People are enthusiastic about bringing about unity amongst various groups of students of Theosophy. But I say let us diagnose the causes of disunity first. "The reason why the world lacks unity, and lies broken and in heaps, is, because man is disunited with himself." Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Law and its criminal justice system, religious moralities, nationalism and its so-called patriotism, The United Nations and its so-called peace keeping force are poor substitutes for any kind of efforts to awakening of compassion in the human beings to solve human problems. Methods other than awakening of compassion are bound to be more knotty.

Countries like America spend huge amount of precious resources in rapidly increasing security systems, crime detection and criminal justice system and also on life-style related health abuses. If the leadership ponders on education at formative years, on universal values such as compassionate living, and modest life style instead of indulgence, there is scope for preventing the unnecessary spending of resources and they can be used towards more productive causes. Parents, teachers and caregivers should set an example for modest lifestyle and compassionate living. President Obama said, while commenting on a recent man-made tragedy due to an act of violence, "*we should ask ourselves if we're doing all we can to widen the circle of compassion in our own communities.*"

But he has a tough job, if he really meant what he said. A society that promotes indulgence, gratification and too much competitiveness and that is grounded on exploitation and the ideas such as survival of the fittest, which means marginalization or even annihilation of the less fit, is highly unlikely to be sensitive to suffering of fellow human beings and show compassion and hence one should not but expect social tension and increasing acts of cruelty, violence and galloping crime rates. Economic wealth created without the parallel nurturing of values such as compassion, will only lead to envy, social tension and violent crimes. Many think that tougher laws will take care of such ills, not to speak of the easy availability of guns. It is surprising that interconnectedness and compassionate living is hardly taught to children and the youth; and all efforts here are towards competitive living and material