

## Love and Fear: Effects on Politics, Economy, Education and Religion

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### ABSTRACT

*Love is the highest gift of life while fear is the greatest evil. According to Current Standard English Dictionary, love is defined as an intense feeling of affection and care towards another person. It is a profound and caring attraction towards someone. Fear on the other hand can be defined as a strong, uncontrollable, unpleasant emotion caused by actual or perceived danger or threat. These two concepts are central in our day to day activities that they need to be clarified. Many have lived all through life as slave of fear just because of the ideology of one school of thought or the other and hence have remained moribund all their life. Many also have been plunged into this psychopathic condition of fear by the so-called preachers of God's word about the concept of heaven and hell that they forget to understand or commit themselves towards actualizing their purpose (assignment) on earth, hence, they remain heavenly conscious and earthly useless. This philosophical work will x-ray these two concepts, "Love and Fear" using realities around us so as to position humanity well and help them to be productive toward God and men. It is a work that is out to bring peace, sanity and health of mind and body as men journey on earth. This work will dissolve and debunk the confusion of some phobic concepts and position men to healthy living that are rooted in love.*

**Keywords:** *Love, Fear, Politics, Economy, Education, Religion.*

### Introduction

According to Okoroafor (2021), Love is the soul of the universe. With love the universe was fashioned. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the spirit (love) of God was hovering over the waters. And God said. "Let there be light and there was light (Genesis 1:2-3). Knowing that it is

love that fashioned the world, it is also expedient to know that outside love there will be no life on the earth. No matter the ideologies, laws, principles that one fashioned for organizing or ruling the world, it will definitely end in futility if they were not based on this greatest good called “Love”.

- Love is the voice that calls for peace!
- Love is the mind that understands the plight of the uninformed!
- Love is the power that overlooks the fault of the weak!
- Love is the knowledge that expresses itself!
- Love is the wealthy that serves the poor!
- Love is the wounded soul that says.” I forgive and forget!”
- Love is the bread that feeds the hungry flocks!
- Love is the selfless commitment to save the corrupt and dying generation!
- Love is the merciful heart upon the fate of the next generation!
- Love is the vision in the hearts of men!
- Love is the flowing and profuse tears looking at the plight of the suffering children on the street!
- Love is the policies at the table of the government seeking for implementation to better the lives of the unemployed adults on the streets!
- Love is the heart that feels for the motherless and fatherless and decides to give them a home!
- Love is the heart of a teacher that takes care of children with special needs without complaining!
- Love is the heart of a doctor and a nurse that hears the agonizing cry of the sick and care for them!
- Love is the heart of a president that cannot sleep until he meets the needs of hunger, lack of clothing and shelter in his country!
- Love is the hand that is busy with pen all through the day, writing to educate the uninformed on the best ideal life!
- Love is the scientist that is having sleepless nights at the laboratory so as to produce machines, Apps, drugs, etc. that will alleviate human suffering!
- Love is really the greatest good!

Love, therefore, is the bedrock of every country’s politics, education, economy, and religion.

According to Wikipedia.com, Fear weakens our immune system and can cause cardiovascular damage, gastrointestinal problems such as ulcers and irritable bowel syndrome and decreased fertility. It can lead to accelerated ageing and even premature death. Fear is defined as unpleasant feeling triggered by the perception of danger, real or imagined. In all ramifications, fear or phobia is the greatest evil in the world. Almost all illnesses are caused by the effects of fear. Some of the symptoms of fear are as follows:

- Feeling nervous, restless or tense.
- Having a sense of impending danger, panic or doom.

- Having an increased heart rate.
- Breathing rapidly (hyperventilation).
- Sweating.
- Trembling.
- Feeling weak or tired.
- Trouble concentrating or thinking about anything other than the present worry.

When a human body is under this condition, definitely, the individual life span will be reduced; neither will he/she be productive in life. Living under fear is satanic and the creator of the universe had never, has never and will never wish that his children be placed under such condition. It is only an evil mind that will design a system that will place humanity in such condition. But this is a system that religion, education, politics, and economy have designed for men and forced them to live by it as a means to salvage their personal and societal life.

- Fear is that threat of a man with gun before a helpless child!
- Fear is that system that has refused to pay the wages of that worker who has worked under the scorching sun for thirty day.
- Fear is the situation that has left a household without food!
- Fear is that agony of a mother watching her husband and children under torture!
- Fear is the situation playing on the ignorance of the illiterates!
- Fear is that rich man that eats from the pockets of the poor!
- Fear is that manipulative gospel that feeds from the pockets of the poor ignorant congregation!
- Fear is that gospel of fear that says, "Either you pay tithe or things will be tight for you!"
- Fear is that transactionary-gospel which says, "The measure you give is the measure you will get!" all as a means of defrauding the uninformed. Here the preacher stands as a pool master.
- Fear is that so-called Man-of-God riding private jet and living in mansion from the pockets of his poor ignorant followers!
- Fear is that government embezzling public fund; leaving the masses in perpetual poverty!
- Fear is the religious myth of hellfire!
- Fear is that doctrine that refuses to let people have clear conscience before God!
- Fear is that doctrine that tells the congregation that only special people are given the authority for the forgiveness of their sin!
- Fear is that government that refuses to build local refineries only to be playing and fooling the citizens with foreign petrol and its subsidies!
- Fear is that wife refusing her husband to have peace whenever she comes back home!
- Fear is that lecturer that cannot pass his/her students unless they pay in cash or kind!

- Fear is that police or soldier that will not allow easy passage of drivers and passengers unless they roja him (give money)!
- Fear is that man or woman that cannot take care of his/her aged parents!
- Fear is that man and woman that cannot born according to the number of children that their resources can take good care of!
- Fear is that man that uses that lady as sex toy vice vasa!
- Fear is that gospel that says that salvation is by works and not by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ!

Everything that is evil is fear. It kills the spirit, soul and body. It is the enemy that comes to steal, kill and destroy but love is our friend who came that we might have life and have it in abundant. Every atrocity you can think of is fear. Fear has really ruined peoples' vision on earth. Fear is the greatest evil on earth, it has ruin our political, economic, education and religious sectors.

### **Effects of Love on Politics, Economy, Education and Religion**

Be a slave of no one except that of love (Romans 13:8). Love is the bedrock on which the universe stands. It is the pivot upon which human existence stands. Love is God, the fountain of humanity. Love is the only thing we are created for, which satisfies our spirit and the yearning of our soul. To love means that all your actions, intensions, words must be ruled by love or based on love. It also means that the bedrock of your soul will be that of love. No other thing will rule or propel your intensions, words and actions except that of love. Any other thing that rules your soul is your prison. Your life is structured with love and it is the only thing that gives you fulfilment. This is evident on the fact that whenever one is forced to do any action outside his freewill, naturally, his being will resist it. I believe it happens to everyone including me. Hence, let us x-ray love based on human activities via politics, economy, education and religion.

### **Political Sector:**

Aquinas following the political concept of Aristotle is of the view that the state is a creature of nature and that politics is the activities that ensure the supreme good of humanity (Stumpf 1994:192). Hence, there is only one thing that will propel all your political activities and that is love. Apart from love other propelling forces are your prison yard. It will continue to torture you to death. You act in freedom when it is the love to better the lives of your suffering generation that is propelling all your political actions. When the yearnings of the suffering men and women are what are pushing you to make a change, there is your freedom and peace! When it is to alleviate the situation of the starving children of your country is the reason why you are in politics, there, rests your freedom! When the problem of unemployment in your country is the propelling factor of your going into politics, here, is your rest! Never fail prey to the selfish nature of your human person and allow it to be the propelling force of your moving into politics. This may come in form of looking for fame, power or money. Run away from these motives, they are the prison yard for your soul which will torture you to death.

### **Economic Sector:**

Using Nigeria as a reference, Uzoukwu (2004) is of the view that the world is a garden of economic harvest where only what man needs is only to utilize and bake what Mother earth has offered him. Which economic activity are you into, is it treading, technology invention, artistry, medical practice, teaching, legal practice etc.? There is only one master in all these that will give you joy, peace, and freedom, and that is love. Let all the economic activities you are into or about to enter be for the sole purpose of your love for humanity; to make a positive impact in the lives of men. To support this view, John Stuart Mill visualized a happy society as one that consisted of a well-paid and affluent body of labourers; no enormous fortunes, except what were earned and accumulated during a single lifetime (Mukherjee & Ramaswamy 2007:340). Let it be because you have seen the pain and agony of your people and you want to offer help that led you into your economic venture. Let each individual that comes across you on daily bases see and feel this overwhelming master of yours, called love. Be a slave of this master (love) and you will have freedom and peace.

### **Education Sector:**

According to Uzoukwu (2004:277) education is that whole and continuous process of human formation and experience which aims at the cultivation of the intellect, and inculcation of the human virtues for the realization of a sound and developed human person in his or her integrity and authenticity. Therefore, love must be the only one master that should push individuals into this sector. The love to enlighten the souls of the ignorant is the only reason for instituting this sector. Any other reason that takes you to this sector is your prison yard that will hold you on hostage and suffer you to death. Are you an instructor of any kind, this master (love) must enslave you for you to experience freedom? If fame, power, sexual drive, and money are your propelling factors, please, run for your dear life; you are about to go for life imprisonment. See the irony, if love becomes your master, fame, power, and money will enter into your prison yard and you become their master forever. You will become financially wealthy, accompanied with fame when love enslaves your soul.

### **Religious Sector:**

Love is the only factor that should push you into performing any religious activity. It is love that must drive you into opening or joining any religious group. Love for the physical and spiritual wellbeing of humanity should be the only master that your soul must follow in performing any religious activity.

- With love you will not manipulate your members but rather your life and words will inspire them.
- With love you will not teach them that salvation should be bought with money.
- With love you will not manipulate your members with the false teaching of hellfire.
- With love you will not hold your congregation hostage with transactionary gospel (the measure you give is the measure you will receive).

- With love your whole intention will be to feed your congregation with the real teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He that lives in fear is a slave in a life imprisonment.

For Uzoukwu (2004) because of lack of love in the practice of religion, many small-scale industries have been baptised as religious sects, causing spiritual harm and confusion among many ignorant victims, and turning every religious element into an object of commerce. Hence, both the leaders and the members of these congregations live in the prison yard of a life sentence of manipulation, fear, poverty, sickness, competition and comparison. With love you and your member will gain freedom and all other things will be added unto you. Seek you first the kingdom (love) of God and its righteousness and all other things will be added to you (Matthew 6:33).

### **Friendship Activities:**

Friendship is love and love is friendship. In Aristotle's view, according to Knobel (2016), in true friendship, friends love each other for their own sake, and they wish good things for each other. This kind of friendship, says Aristotle, is only possible between "good people with similar virtue," because only good people are capable of loving another person for that person's sake. When you hear the word friendship, you feel love! Friendship is practical love in action. In friendship you grasp the person of love and feel its real presence. Friendship is an activity that only seeks for the good of the other. Anything other than love in friendship is manipulation which I called witchcraft. Friendship for friendship is love; marriage for friendship is love; friendship for manipulation is witchcraft. Friendship or marriage without love is perpetual imprisonment, therefore, run for your dear life!

Are you into friendship or about to enter into one? Seek to forget yourself and seek for the good of the other person. Anything you called relationship without the master (love) is life sentence. Today, what people call friendship or marriage is nothing but two parties seeking for their selfish ends through manipulation. Wife is only interested in using the husband as an object she owns, vice versa. Here, you see one using all manner of manipulative skills to control the other. Some use fear, intimidation, persuasion, and all kinds of fallacies. Once the master (Love) is not in any relationship, you are already in a prison yard. Again, I say, run for your dear life! Love is the master that gives you freedom in all areas of life. It makes you the master of fame, power and money; but once any of your actions is devoid of love, you become a slave of your slave (fame, power and money). This is serving life sentence!

### **Effects of Fear on Politics, Economy, Education and Religion**

Fear is opposite of love. Fear and love are two motivating forces that propel individuals' or group actions. While love is a positive force; fear is a negative force. Fear is a paranoid that has frozen the peace of mankind. It is an inbuilt system in all the angles of the society that inhibits both individual and societal development. Hence, let us x-ray these different angles of the society where fear has really done a devastating work.

### **Political Sector:**

Politics can be defined as the act of ruling the state for the betterment of mankind. According to Thomas Magstadt & Peter Schotten (1984:4), simply stated, politics encompasses the way human beings in the aggregate govern themselves. Many have the good intension for entering into politics but also many have ulterior motive for going into politics. In the final analysis, it is obvious that fear of poverty is one of those erroneous motives that has led many into politics and as a result of this politics has become a game of the survival of the fittest. Tyranny and dictatorship government have become the end point of this leadership. Hence, they engaged in the embezzlement of public fund. All over the world, leadership has become a place of doom and agony. People, then, are becoming interested in politics not for their love of solving the problems of humanity but for the fact of their individual gain. Fame and power are another reason why people are forcing their way into political seats. People want to feed the beast in them; to lord it over to others and use them as their slaves. For instance, look at what Putin in Ukraine; Kim jong-un in North Korea; Bashar al-Assad in Syria; Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe; Alexander Lukashenko in Belarus are doing to their citizens. All these leaders are in self-perpetual imprisonment because of love of fame and power.

To my country Nigeria, all the leaders since independence in 1960 have three things in common and they are self-centredness, looting of government money, and enslavement of the citizens. Do to fear of poverty; Nigerian politicians have vowed to remain in power as long as they are alive. From the local government seat, they move to the state and to the federal and from there, back to the state and local government. In Nigerian politics, it is still one cabal that are on seat since the independence in 1960, over 60 years now. One of the politicians from the Igbo's extraction of the country made this statement: "Been the governor of the state, if I want to stop stealing the state money, when I remember what poverty did to me and my family, I cannot but to continue to grab more money for it seems to me that I have not gotten enough and that if I stop I will go back to my poverty condition." This is what poverty has done to men that even in the face of dying humanity; our present-day leaders seem not to notice their cries. They are only concerned and blindfolded by their self-centredness.

### **Economic Sector:**

In the economic sector, it is still these monsters called poverty, quest for fame and power that determine the wage scale and the price of goods and services. The government and individuals set the price of goods and services based on the selfish end (fear) of trying not to be caught up by poverty and on their quest to have fame and power. Questioning average men and women in the market on the reasons why they are traders, the simple answer is: "I don't want to be poor; I want to have money and be famous!" This mind-set has made people to be ready to manoeuvre and manipulate their customers and workers in order to have their way to financial prosperity.

Is this really the reason for life? The answer is capital 'No.' This mind-set according to Okoroafor (2021) in his concept of Time, Existence and Experience means

being in the prison yard of fear forever and that the irony of the matter is that these fellows that want to run away from poverty will be caught in the midst of the two, poverty and fear. Here, there is no reason to live for and frustration and depression, if possible, suicide is the end result of this kind of mind-set. Therefore, the purpose of being in business is to serve humanity in love. It means to heal the sick, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and cloth the naked. Here, there is health and freedom of spirit, soul and body! Here, money will pursue you and everything blissful will be yours!

### **Education Sector:**

For Zuofa (2008:16), the spring board to socio-economic growth and development of every nation is education but for the government the reverse is the case, education is not a place to pay attention to; hence, little or nothing on the yearly monitory budget allocation is being mapped out for education. For this reason, teaching job is now a ridiculous profession and no parent in his/her right senses will opt teaching as an option for his/her children. Therefore, education sector is left for those with no other alternative for living. It is now for people who are afraid of hunger that will go to take teaching profession as their last option. People with the passion to teach will never dream of going into teaching profession for if they do, poverty will become their second name.

Education has been alienated from its main purpose and objectives because of the monsters called fear. In all sectors of education hardly will one see any teacher who is there because he sees it as a means to serve humanity. Peoples who come to embrace teaching career these days only do so because they have no other alternative for making ends meet. Education now becomes the last hope of a common man to make a living. As a result of this monster ‘Fear of Poverty’ the few who managed to take teaching as their profession makes it an arena of merchandise, where extortion is the other of the day. Students and parents are being extorted on daily bases. Teachers who supposed to be students’ role models are now calculated and refurbished thieves. Students and parents pay to get the best certificate that they cannot defend at the labour market. This now turns the whole society into the den of frustrated certificated illiterates.

### **Religious Sector:**

From Guardian News (Monday 2 Dec 2013 07.03), according to Bertrand Russell lecture on his reason why “I am not a Christian” – delivered to the south London branch of the National Secular Society has this to say: “Religion is based primarily and mainly upon fear. It is partly the terror of the unknown – fear of the mysterious, fear of defeat, fear of death.” Religion is the paramount sector where fear is the Master to all its adherents. About 95% of all religious men and women are held bound under the dreadful prison of fear. Fear is only what propels their actions. On this, Archon (2015) has this to say: “Our fear of death has made us to believe in anything, no matter how silly it is.” Both those leading and those been led are all into the clutch of this monster called fear. Father and mother initiate their children to this prison yard right from birth. I am a victim of this too. As we came up to the age of reasoning, the first place you will find yourself is inside this prison yard of religion built with fear. This will caught hold of your psychic

sanity and renders it useless. To some, this prison yard is for life; there is no way of escape and if possible, it is only few that will manage to escape by grace of knowledge empowerment.

What are these religious phobias we are talking about? They are as follows:

1. Fear of hellfire
2. Fear of poverty
3. Fear of no recognition
4. Fear of God's wreath
5. Fear of evil spirit

### **Conclusion**

Anything done outside love is evil. If you discover your place in politics, economy, education and religion and offer it to humanity, there is still one thing remaining for it to give fulfilment. It asks the question, "Of what reason are you performing your actions in any of these sectors?" The answer should be, "For the sake of love and not because I am seeking fame, power, money, afraid of poverty or afraid of hellfire. Actions should be performed because there is love in the soul of man that needs expression.

- That sick person over there that needs my care and help is the love in my soul.
- That suffering humanity is the love in my soul that needs help.
- That bad road in my neighbourhood that needs repair is the love in my soul.
- Those unemployed youths in my country are the love in my soul that needs help.
- Those problems around you that your soul is longing to find solution to are the love in your soul. You should strive to solve them with all your hearts, with all your soul and with all your might; they are the first and the greatest commandment.

This love in your soul presents itself as your area of specialization in politics, economy, education and religion. Love presents her in each individual soul in divers ways. Locate the form she is presenting herself to your soul and serve her with all your hearts, with all your soul and with your entire mind. This is the end purpose of life! It is the love of humanity!

You will be meeting love in all your daily dealings (in the sick, in the poor, in the depressed, in the unemployed, bad government, bad education policies, inadequate parenting, peoples without vision or directions in life, gullible ignorant religious masses, customers in the markets etc), try and give a lending hands and there will be peace and development for both individual persons and the society.

### **Recommendation**

- This work is an antidote to fear of poverty, greed for fame and power; therefore, I recommend that the government should establish political academic centers all over the country for those with the passion of becoming politicians.

- Without a robust economy, the masses can never be liberated from the shackles of fear of poverty. Therefore, I recommend that the government should build a formidable industrialized state that will absorb our teeming unemployed youths
- In a country like Nigeria where the masses who are living in abject poverty are celebrating world richest pastors, is an aberration. This is as a result of mass illiteracy where the so-called pastors are only manipulating poor and stripping them the little, they have to enrich themselves. I, therefore, recommend that there should be a team of religious intellectuals who will go about monitoring these pastors, their teachings and their activities of their churches.
- Education is the bedrock for the development of any country. I, therefore, recommend that the government should look into the budget allocation of their country's education to make sure that it meets the standard for quality education.

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