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[Open Source Ecology review TVP & TZM](#)

My reactions on viewing the Zeitgeist orientation video.

Scientific method: the video and web sites talk a lot about scientific method, but as far as I can tell, these people aren't actually doing any science. They aren't forming hypotheses, designing experiments, collecting data and forming conclusions. There's no list of open questions and proposed experiments. The video is just assertion piled on top of assertion.

Computer-assisted government: why don't they have some software that I can download that will help me make better decisions? Seriously. If they don't have software that will help one person make better decisions, why would I believe that computers can run a city or a planet?

Lack of a prototype city: if these people believe that a society that doesn't use money can build cities,

they can't exactly use lack of money as an excuse for not having built their prototype after 30 years.

Update:

Let me make it clear that I am not criticizing the vision of a society without money. Yes, of course, we come in peace, we share many of the same values. I'm criticizing the lack of tangible progress. There are many open source success stories: Linux, Wikipedia, RepRap, Arduino, Life-Trac, Liberator CEB press, etc. The Venus Project has accomplished... what?

Someone points out that a project the size of a city takes a while to get going. Yes, of course, but that's not a feature, it's a bug. The vision is too grandiose, too top-down. Better to work from the bottom up. Walk before you run. Build a village before you build a city. Build a house before you build a village. Try different things, make mistakes, learn from them.

Kubuguy, thanks for the additional info. I will do some reading.

My reactions were based on 90 minutes of viewing the orientation video... via a link you provided. As far I could tell from the video, TZM is a monolithic organization, with a uniform belief system, and Peter Joseph is TZM's official spokesman. The Venus Project also seemed to be organized around the work of one man.

Now you tell me that TZM is decentralized and there is room for a spectrum of opinions. I'm shocked, SHOCKED I tell you! Pleased, but shocked.

You might avoid misunderstandings like mine if you explain the situation to people before they watch the video instead of after.

Social organization is an empirical problem. You try different things and you see what works. Alternatively, you look at existing communities.

ZM treats social organization as a theoretical problem. JF spent the last 30 years designing a system, now PJ is telling everybody how great it is. Nobody is doing experiments, nobody is collecting data.

I suspect that different people will prefer different forms of organization. The ZM approach is top-down and doesn't accommodate this. The open-source approach is bottom-up and does. Direct democracy vs. contractual voluntary association? Not even a problem. The DD advocates set up DD communities and the CVA advocates set up CVA communities. Maybe one works and one doesn't. Maybe they both work. Doesn't matter.

This all seems rather disingenuous. If my reaction to the orientation video had been very positive, would you be saying “wait, not so fast, don't jump to conclusions, this is not a monolithic group”? I don't think so.

Anyway, instead of arguing that there's no such thing as a monolithic group, why not point me to a TZM video by someone other than Peter Joseph? Or maybe you could describe a few areas where TZM people disagree with each other. Better yet, tell us where YOU think Peter Joseph is wrong about something.

<http://factorefarm.org/content/zeitgeist-venus-project-vaporware#comment-412>

The usual hound dogs & gatekeepers from TZM arrive to dispute it.

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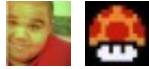
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~ by anticultist on April 14, 2010.

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7 Responses to “Open Source Ecology review TVP & TZM”

1. “I suspect that different people will prefer different forms of organization. The ZM approach is top-down and doesn’t accomodate this. The open-source approach is bottom-up and does.”

Usually TVPers respond to this with something like

“Oh but it doesn’t have to be like that, it can be different, J’s vision is not final, so you are not proving anything”

But then come JF, PJ, RM and say “A RBE must have no money, must have a central hub and all information goes there, so then we come to the best solution, etc.” And of course, no one is (supposedly) forced to follow the best found solution, BUT !

There is no need for centralized solution finders when we already possess a great tool called the INTERNET. And OPEN-SOURCE software to help us find the best solutions.

It seems to me that these guys are infatuating themselves with some ideas which are cute, but worthless.

People who do technical work (VertiFarm, Earthship, DIYers, etc) don’t look down on society and say it needs to be redesigned, they improve it bit by bit.

But of course, TVP is like politics, let's vote something new, turn everything upside down and forget the ongoing work of the guys who are trying to thoroughly detail and solve the individual problems.

I see reforestation activism, renewable energy research in universities, voluntary farm building in vietnam and other countries like it, devoted open source teams giving you access to what you need, and on and on, but the stance of TVP/TZM is that these individual groups do not address the underlying issues.

Well... Lack of forests means lack of clean air, and a reason for people to go crazy or die, or both. Lack of electricity, lack of food, more reasons to wage war. Lack of open source software means no more free tools and information, a problem for people who want to help but don't have the money.

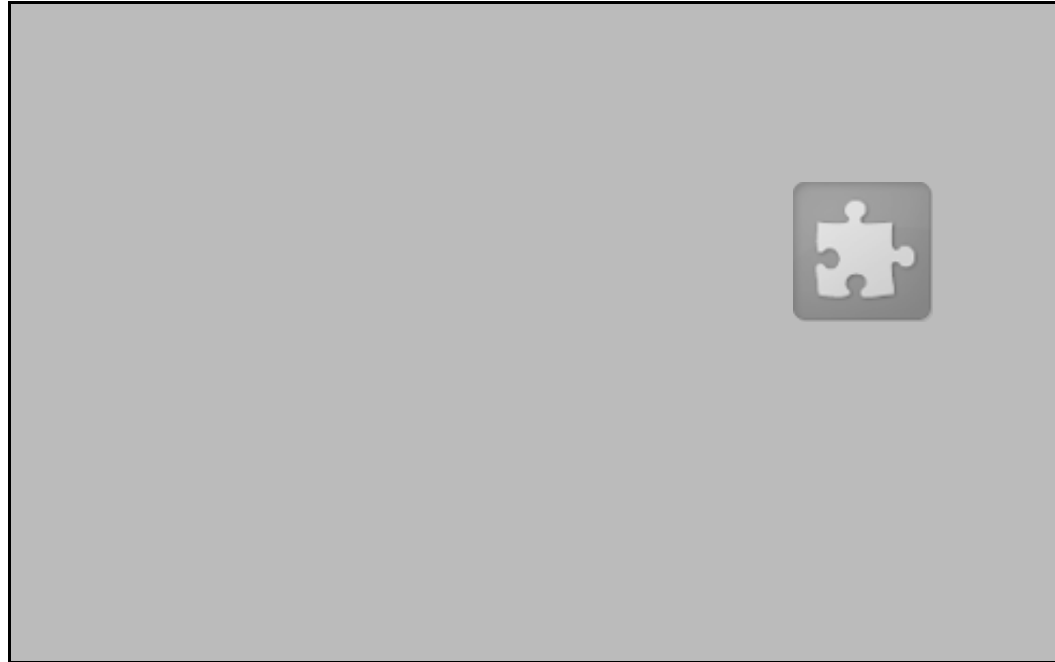
When they are gonna be able to breathe clean air without forests, power their house with nothing once the oil becomes too difficult to extract, feed people in poor countries without the help of those who built the farms in the first place, and find a way to design their shiny toys without the help of open source communities and without money, then they can say critics do not understand why TVP is so great.

Until then, if you're someone who wants to do something good, i suggest you stop looking up at online philosophers.



[mickeymouse2012](#) said this on [April 14, 2010 at 7:10 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

- I agree mickeymouse2012 the fact that Peter still espouses the delusional idea that we should be abandoning all of the worlds cities to live in some magical fairy land based on 1950's World of the Future with fluffy little bunnies and fuzzy elves.



Shane Nolan said this on [April 15, 2010 at 10:47 am](#) | [Reply](#)

2. (cont)... still boggles the mind



Shane Nolan said this on [April 15, 2010 at 2:05 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

3. Technocracy criticized the Zeitgeist Movement too:

<http://tinyurl.com/technocracyontzm>

The confusion continues.

At least OSE are getting their hands dirty and doing something. They make TZM look lazy.

And I see some of them saying that TZM is a growing open-source movement, man... RBOSE wouldn't have formed if that was the case plus their unprofessional behavior to add in. You got to love the dishonesty coming from them and they expect people to collaborate with them?

They can't be serious.

I think everyone should go their independent routes, because just trying to understand TZM alone is mission impossible itself. That's coming

from someone that has been as patient with them as possible. Seriously.



[BranManFloMore](#) said this on [June 6, 2010 at 9:23 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

4. [...] Open Source Ecology review TVP & TZM [...]

[Zeitgeist Blogs: Zeitgeist is a Mind Heist « Zeitgeist Movement Exposed](#) said this on [November 10, 2010 at 9:11 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

5. There are computers that makes decisions, they are partly being used at the stockmarkets do decide which stocks that the brokers should buy or sell. And these are just the first or second gen of decision-making software. they requier a lot of computer power, but if you have a nice Linux cluster of say, 30 pc's, you could drive it from your own home, if you can get hold of a copy that is...;)



[Håkan Sundberg](#) said this on [February 8, 2011 at 6:08 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

6. Now thats what im talking about, no scetific proof whatsoever. I never could get a response of why no real proof. Not one peice of info about people working together. the whole world needs to be a part of the movement. Well dont that sound just like Christianity. LOL!



[Glenn Poston](#) said this on [March 23, 2011 at 10:22 pm](#) | [Reply](#)

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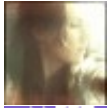


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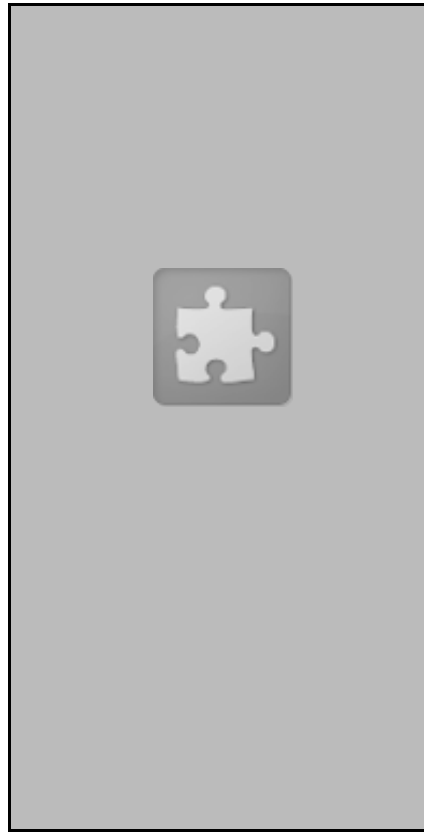
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