

## The illusion control and technological illusionism

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**H**uman acting, feeling and thinking is much less rational than we assume. Moreover, coincidence always has the final say. However, our illusion of control is deeply rooted in our genetic makeup. We tend to attribute success to our competence, while we attribute disadvantage to others or circumstances (bad luck).

Technologization contributes to the illusion of a makeable world, in which coincidence apparently no longer plays a role. In psychology, the illusion of control has been investigated countless times, and is known as the attribution error (success is attributed internally, failure externally). The gambler fallacy is an example of the illusion of control. Fortunately, everyone finds themselves above average and above modally gifted, competent, etc. However, patients with depression appear to have a more realistic attribution style, but their chance of survival is reduced, and with that it becomes clear that our irrationality ("technological illusionism") offers evolutionary advantage. Individually, we have little "trouble" with our irrationality, attribution errors and fallacies, but our biotope, which is now global, is suffering more from it than ever before: human-induced mass extinction and collective the suicide that we are actually bringing about with our human-technique symbiosis.

I think it is great that the children - symbolized in our heroine of neurodiversity Greta Thunberg - stand up against this at the UN in New York, where she pointed an accusing finger at the leaders of countries, who were invited precisely because their countries were reasonably busy realizing the agreements of a previous climate agreement. However, with accusations back and forth, we obviously do not get any further. No one has caused this condition in a controlled manner; it is a consequence of the extensive dependencies that characterize large-scale patterns. And that large-scale originated bottom-up. Holding one person - or one professional group - responsible, again bears witness to the attribution error. What we must do is clear (Exit Technology, back to smaller scales), but the fact that this is only possible if this is tackled on a large scale (ie technologically) immediately reveals the unbridgeable controversy.

### Gaining respect

A second way is to regain respect for coincidence, but for that our mindset must be radically changed, even against our nature. Now we can show what that seemingly rationality that shines on our horizon is really worth. We will have to realize that technology does not by definition make our lives better, that the profit figures of high-tech giants do not simply extend our sustainability on earth. Above all, we have to see that life doesn't get better if it is apparently made easier. The higher our position, the greater the chance that we will be lived through our agenda, on a leash of time, which is always limited and where incidence always has the final say.

How long we live, how much appreciation we get, coincidence plays a much greater role everywhere than our ingrained illusion of control and rationality makes us believe. We become respectable by not throwing mud when we're out of luck and not raising ourselves above everything and everyone when we're lucky. Whether bad luck turns out to be luck or conversely is often a consequence of ... coincidence. The only thing that we can set against coincidence is our dignity: neither blame nor fame harm me. But of course a rebound can be the beginning of a turnaround, and the dedication and sound of a new generation of students led by figurehead Greta Thunberg is a wonderful rain shower in an endlessly dry desert of technological illusionism!