



*Toward a
Life-Centered
Economy
From the Rule of Money
to the Rewards of
Stewardship*



**John Lodenkamper
Paul Alexander
Pete Baston
Judith Streit**



QIF Focus Book 12

Agenda

Introduction

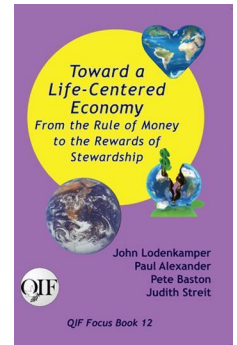
Chapter 1: The Time of Your Life

Chapter 2: Our Economic System Reimagined

Chapter 3: Synergism in the Life-Centered Economy

Chapter 4: How Do We Get There?

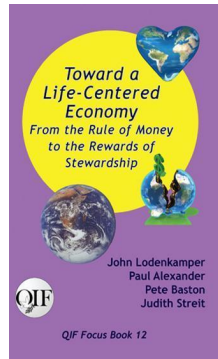
Chapter 5: The Way Forward





Quaker Institute for the Future

***Advancing a global future of
inclusion, social justice, and
ecological integrity through
participatory research
and discernment.***



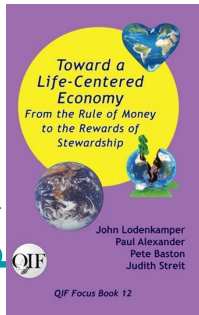
QIF Advancing a Global Future through:

1) The Moral Economy Project that produced :
*Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth
Economy.*

2) Summer Research Seminars: Researchers
present their work in a Quaker Meeting for
Worship for Research.

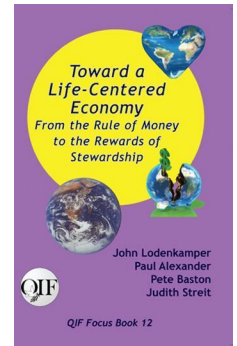
3) Circles of Discernment ... QIF Focus

Books <http://www.quakerinstitute.org>



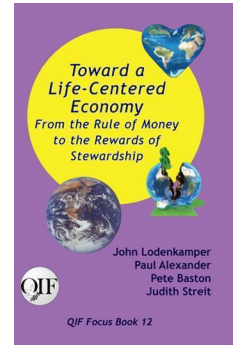
Premises for a Life - Centered Economy

- You can't change human nature but you can appeal to its better side
- You can't buy happiness
- Changing to a new economic system can't be “ taking bad medicine ”
- Consumer action can bring positive change to our consumer- based economy
- Parents want their children to have a good future



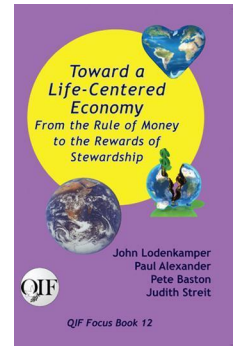
The Time of Your Life

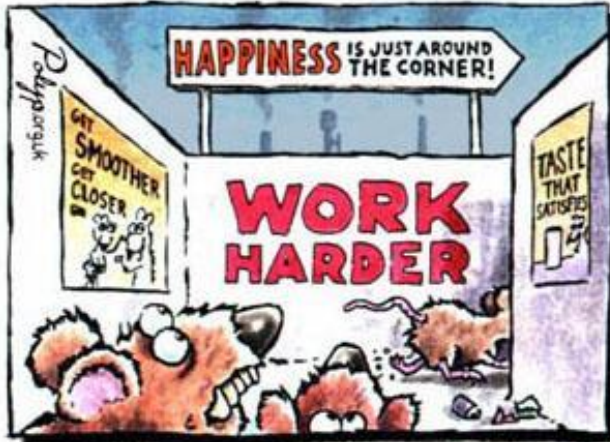
- Current Economic Lens
- Alternative Moral Lens
- Beyond Wellbeing: Satisfaction & Meaning
- Memorials: Celebration of a Life





Money-Centered Economic System





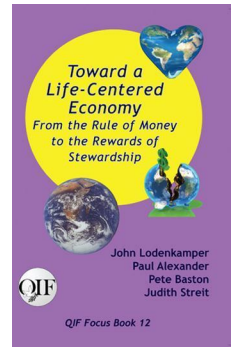
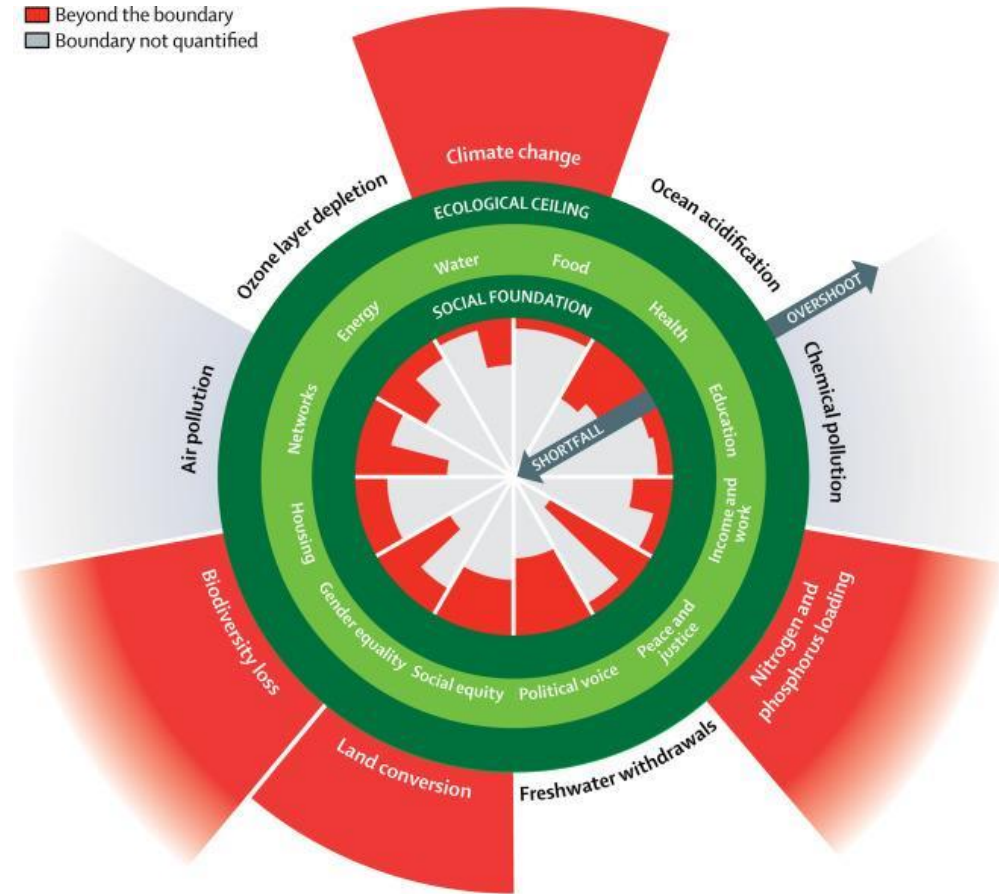
Toward a Life-Centered Economy
 From the Rule of Money to the Rewards of Stewardship

John Lodenkamper
 Paul Alexander
 Pete Baston
 Judith Strelt

QIF

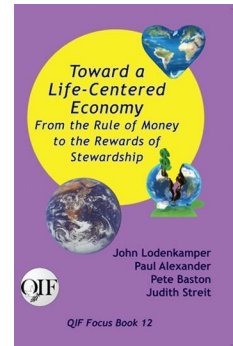
QIF Focus Book 12

■ Beyond the boundary
■ Boundary not quantified



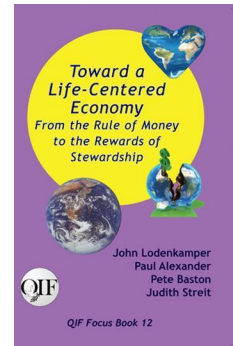


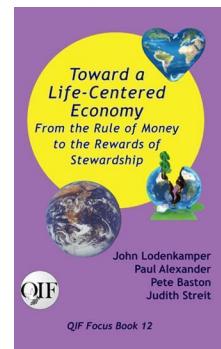
Life-Centered Economic System



Beyond Wellbeing: Satisfaction & Meaning

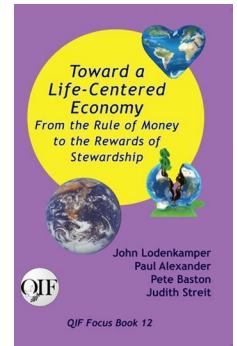
- Changing nature of work
- Satisfaction from “doing” not “consuming”
- What are we living for?
- How can we better go about it?





Our Economic System Reimagined

- Operation of Money-Centered System
- Alternative Life-Centered System
- Transition Considerations

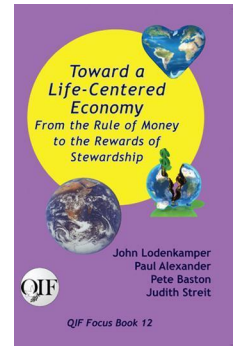


Operation of the Money-Centered Economy

ECONOMY

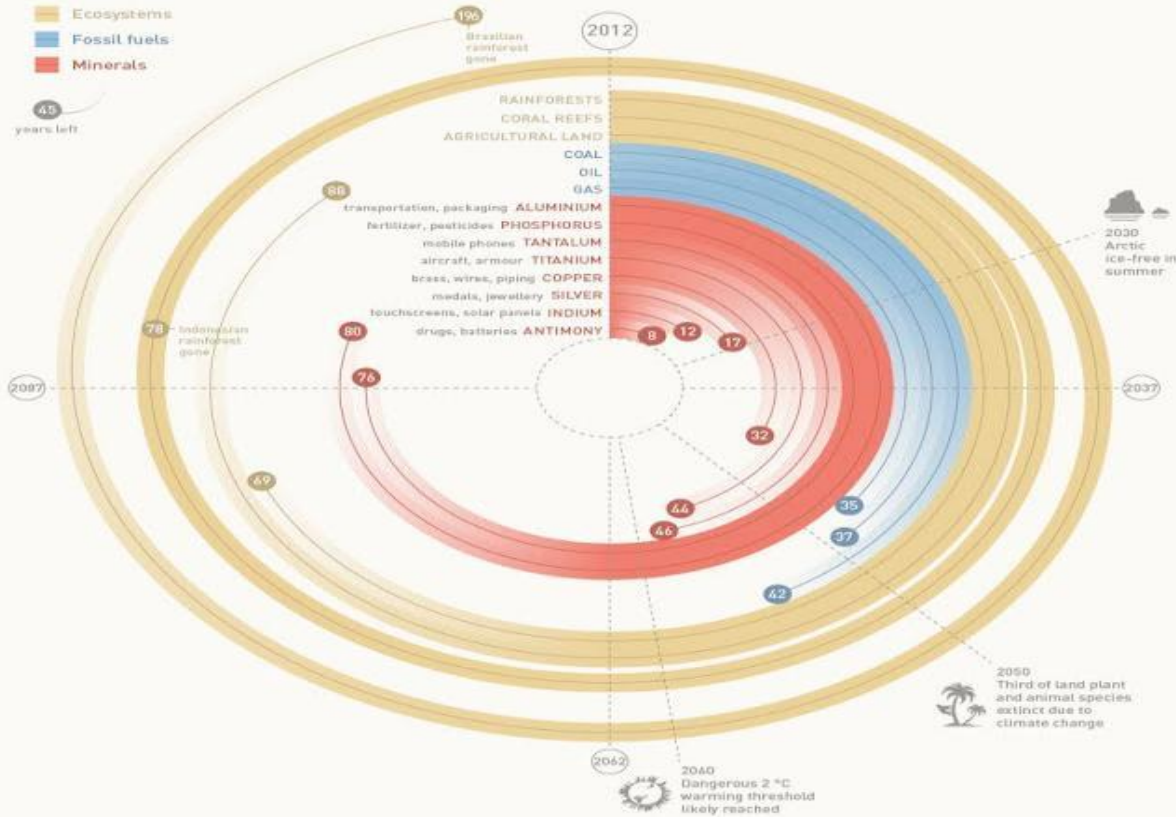
SOCIAL SYSTEM

ECOSYSTEM



Stock Check

Estimated remaining world supplies of non-renewable resources



Sources: UN TEEB, US Geological Survey, BP, Worm et al (2006), London Metal Exchange. Figures are worldwide. Living natural resources listed are worst-case based on published estimates. Minerals and fossil fuel data based on known reserves currently economical to extract, assuming fixed % increase in usage per year. No provision made for changes in demand caused by new technologies, discoveries of new reserves or market forces. Agricultural land means land suitable for rainfed cultivation not of other land usage. Thirty year historic agricultural expansion rates are applied.

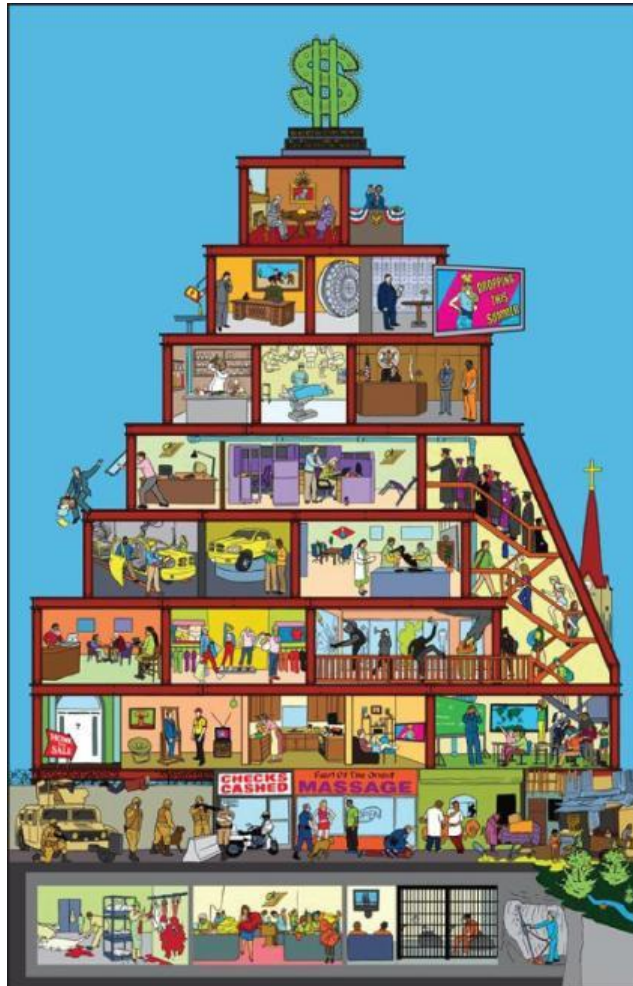
iibstudio

Toward a Life-Centered Economy
 From the Rule of Money to the Rewards of Stewardship




John Lodenkamper
 Paul Alexander
 Pete Baston
 Judith Strelt

QJF


QJF Focus Book 12



*Toward a
Life-Centered
Economy*
From the Rule of Money
to the Rewards of
Stewardship



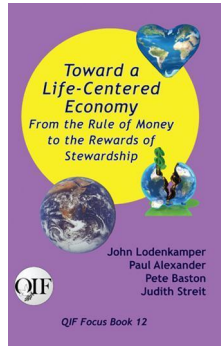
John Lodenkamper
Paul Alexander
Pete Baston
Judith Strelt



QIF Focus Book 12



The Credo of the Money-Centered Economic System: **Time is Money**

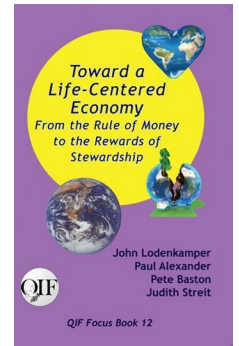


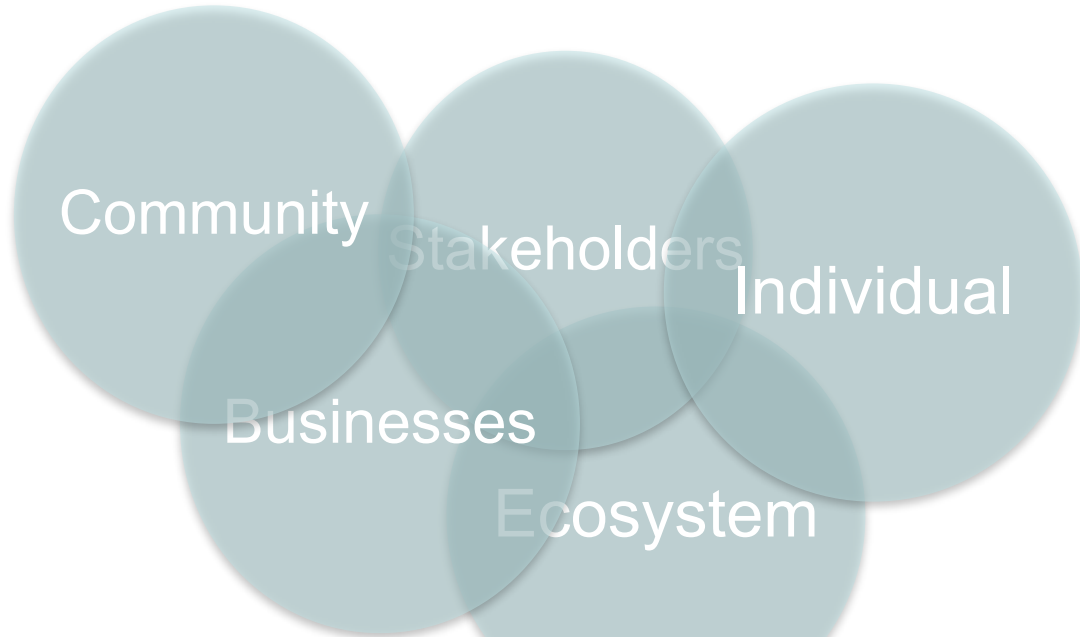
Operation of the Life-Centered Economy

ECOSYSTEM

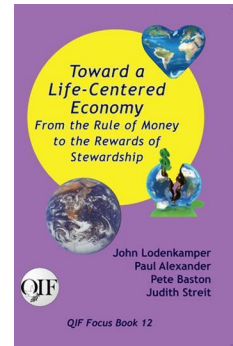
SOCIAL SYSTEM

ECONOMY



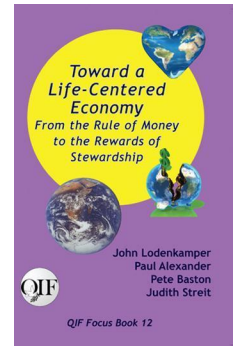


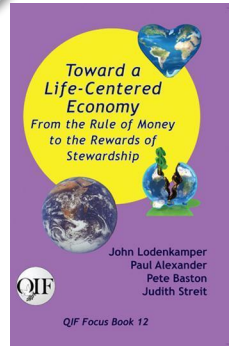
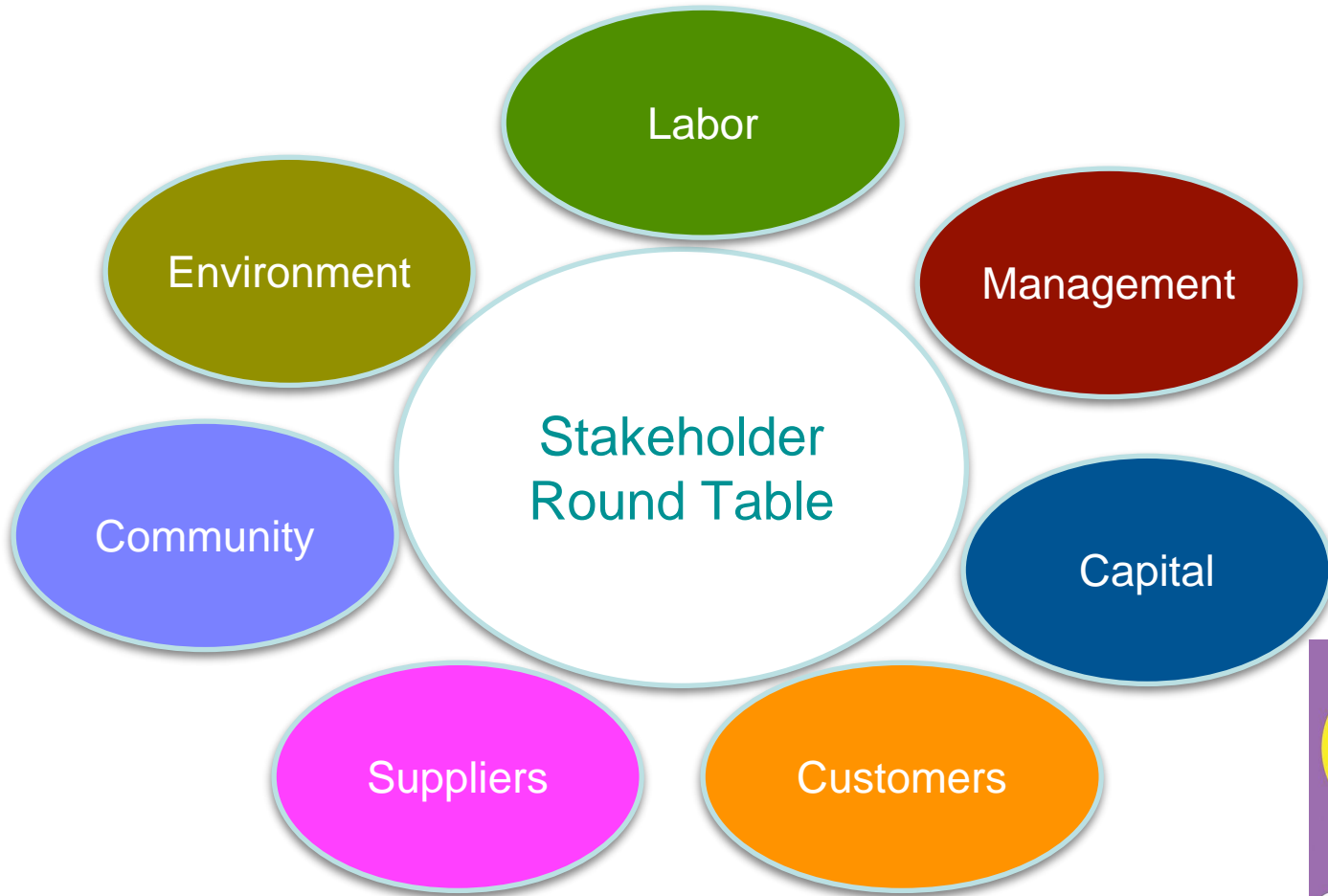
Economic Synergism in a Life - Centered Economy



Foundational Values for A Life-Centered Economy

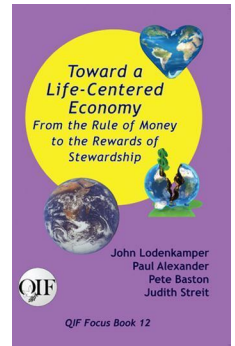
- Time over Money
- Quality over Quantity
- Sustainability over Depletion
- Human Potential over Exploitation
- Small- scale over Large-scale





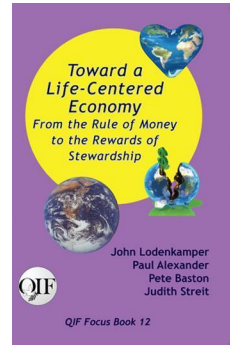
Enabling a Life-Centered Economy

- Growing knowledge of current problem
- Availability of better tools
- Focused consumer action





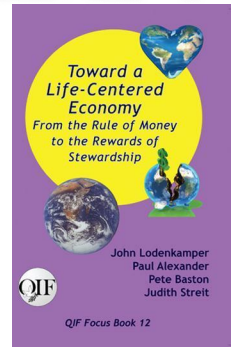
The Credo of the Life-Centered Economic System: **Time is Life**



1. ECONOMIC SYNERGISM



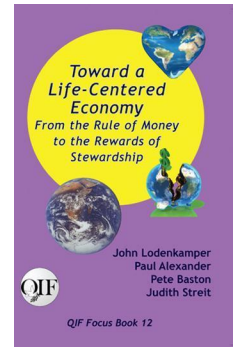
Interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects



2. EXAMPLE OF ECONOMIC SYNERGISM: THE HARDWARE STORE



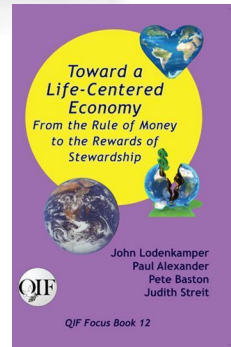
Customers discuss problems with staff: both end up wiser
Repair services : prevents throw away
Provides knowledge of latest green products benefits ecosystem
Connections with surrounding community . Gathering place



3. THE HUMAN HOUSEHOLD: KEY ECONOMIC UNIT



- Producer of paid and unpaid work
- Consumer of goods & services , creating aggregate demand
- Connected to surrounding community
- Can foster " Synergism " through integration with general economy



4. HOUSEHOLD SYSTEM COMPONENTS



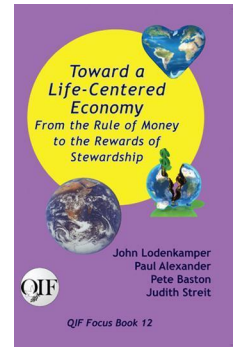
Basic human needs : Food , shelter, utilities , lifestyle goods

Clothing , furnishings , equipment, transportation , communication, etc:

Mindful Consumption

Re-Imagining Household labor: A perspective that places highest value on our time

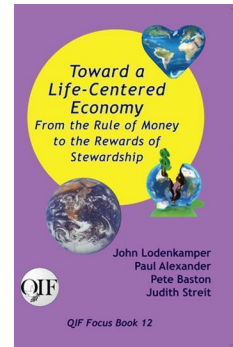
Money : Local banking options , debt management , investment selection



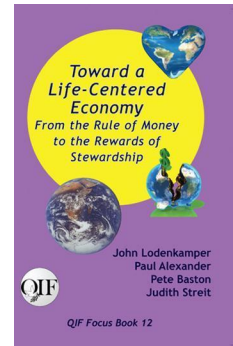
5. SYNERGISTIC HOUSEHOLD OPERATION: PROMOTES A LIFE-CENTERED ECONOMY



Can influence aggregate demand for "green" products services
May provide more satisfying work options
Influences at local level
Telecommuting trend brings more family connections

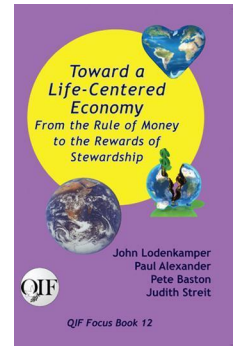


Transition to the Life-Centered Economy



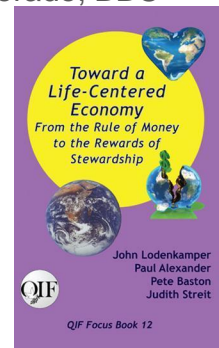
Emphasize Networks and Systems

- A focus on Local economies
- Distributed/connected economy
 - Internet allows for ability to maximize organizational networks and for communities to:
 - self-organize
 - distribute information for greater transparency & market access
 - minimize costs with maximum competition in markets
 - connect neighbors in new ways
- Pro-sumers (like solar net metering)
- Collaborative Commons (sharing)



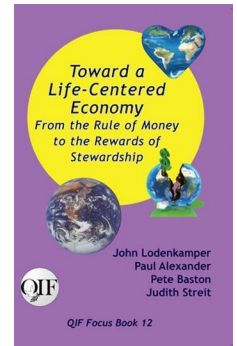
Vibrant Local Examples

- Denver Anchor Network
- Farm to table
- Local Food Hubs (Valley Food Partnership)
- Transition towns (UK)
- Local currencies
 - [Brixton Pound](#) and [Bristol Pound](#) in the UK, [BerkShares](#) in the USA, and [Salt Spring Dollars](#) in Canada.
 - Mutual Credit Currencies: Time based (Mile High Hrs.) and Local Exchange Trading Systems
- Ours to Own (Calvert Investment)
- Credit unions
- Small entrepreneurs (Uber, money venders, combi drivers, tuk tuks/mototaxi, small shops)
- NW Education Deliberation/Child Ombudsman/TIF Deliberation/DRCOG Water Dialogues, TBD Colorado, BBC dialogues, Envision Utah.
- Tiny House Movement
- B-Cycle/Zipcar/Car2go/Scooters
- Onebook Denver
- IAF/Together Colorado



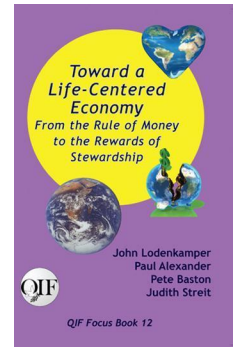
Building an ethical foundation of ecological economics

- Membership: humans are members, not masters, of the community of life.
- Householding: deriving our own lives from other living systems, these systems must be respected and maintained.
- Need to live within natural planetary limits



The Way Forward

- Reclaim Our Agency as Consumers & Investors
- Support Local Enterprises of All Types
- Be a *Changemaker!* Join “Green” Action Groups
- Success: “ Grandchildren’s Letter from 2050”



Questions and Discussion

