

Invisibility

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by Tom Peters

We all have an invisible side of us. Our thoughts may become our words and deeds but they are for the most part invisible to others. Individuals fearing the theory that Bill Gates wants to put chips in all of us sounds weird to me BUT would any of us want others to know our thoughts?

When someone starts to brood too much. We say, he, she or they are "wrestling with their demons". Damn Skippy, my wife would say with humor and conviction. Damn Skippy.

So imagine a thought sharing world with no discretion. Facebook and other social media outlets could sometimes do without folks randomly typing out their thoughts.

Watch what you ask for. Once I inquire why my wife appeared to be in deep thought and possibly troubled, her reply was, "You don't want to go in there, the committee is riled up...I'll be OK, just have to ride it out." We both have the luxury of good insurance and therapists to help us distinguish between helpful and harmful inner voices.

If I said my brain is my favorite organ. You might wonder what organ came in second. Or not. The other, or runner-up organ, has been what I'd have to call the "active participate" in actions I will have to go to my cremation with. I won't mention the organ, but somewhere I've read that some insects use it, then die. How long would our life expectancy be if we got to use it once, then die? There's an example of a thought best left in one's brain and not shared.

Since retiring, I've discovered a newfound invisibility. My wife once said about retiring, "I miss not being expected somewhere". I don't. I was paid to talk and others were somewhat forced to listen. Don't get me wrong, I loved teaching and helping students but someone younger is in there taking my place and I'm happy for them. Aside from my wife, children, some friends and family members, nobody needs to give a thought to my words and deeds these days. I feel at last, alone with my thoughts.

Early morning walks on the beach are required to prepare for the day, I say nothing, maybe an occasional "Hi" but mostly go unnoticed by other beach beings. My job now is to not go to work and... Just live. Cheers to my fellow retirees 😊