Foreword

Although the title of this book hints at a comedic tongue-in-cheek treatment, the actual content provides concrete steps and actions to regain control of the current out-of-control human experience. The following will not be a total solution, nor a precise blueprint. Rather I hope to identify the problem, what things have contributed to it, and some principles to assist you to 'jump from the train'.

I enjoy observing, analyzing and writing about human behavior, and how those behaviors contribute to certain conditions that affect average people.

Understanding this dynamic explains why things are the way they are, and whether the massive inertia in trends and 'progress' can be controlled or managed by the average person.

I think it can, at least on a personal level. But it takes education, critical thinking, and the will and tenacity of a 'junk-yard dog'. Hopefully, after examining what follows, you'll agree.

Lud·dite (lŭd′ĭt)

n.

1. Any of a group of British workers who between 1811 and 1816 rioted and destroyed laborsaving textile machinery in the belief that such machinery would diminish employment.
2. **One who opposes technical or technological change.**

And, just to declare the proper disclaimers, the contents of this book is intended for educational purposes only, and has not been approved by any of the following organizations; FDA, FCC, AMA, ADA, DEA, CIA, NSA, FBI, FAA, EPA, FDIC, FTC, IRS, NASA, NIH, NRLB, SEC, USPS, DHHS, DHS, CPA, MHRA, WHO, JAMA, AAA, NARP, or AARP, and wouldn't be if asked.

Introduction

Why the title of this book, you might ask? And, what's wrong with the way things are?

To explain; I believe firmly that a 20-30yr old could not meaningfully write a book on this subject. That's because their lifespan is too short. Instead, it takes someone who has lived and observed over multiple generations covering some of the most dramatic advancements in human history. It also doesn't hurt to have worked in many aspects of technology, from a starting point of pretty primitive tech to today. That's me.

So, how to explain? Did I, a techno-dweeb who was immersed for many years in the creation, manufacturing and implementing of gee-whiz technology turn on the very things that paid the bills, and kept me intellectually engaged? Or does the inherent wisdom that comes with growing older put things into different perspectives? Or perhaps I bumped into a simple-living zealot and got 'religion'? I'm not sure I can put my finger on a single action, but I do think there have been some disturbing advancements that not only make *me* uncomfortable, but a good number of others.

This book's purpose is NOT to change the world, or point out trends that should be demonstrated or legislated against. There's no appeal in this book to civil resistance and sabotage like Ned Ludd's fellow textile workers in 1811.

The purpose is to identify the trends and problems, and provide pathways for *individuals* to pursue if *they* so wish. Then, if a person really feels that they want to 'stop the progress and get off', they should be able to do so. How should society view them? Not as classic 1811 Luddites, but applying the considerations contained in this book, we could apply the term 'Selective' Luddites. I like this - Selective Luddites.