

Forces of Disintegration and Integration - Kevin Locke - OSEU #2

These little children...they're very resilient. You can see how malleable they are. We're all that way. But of course as we get older, we become less resilient. I think this is a wonderful quality that we can retain, this resiliency. It's a coping skill that the native people demonstrated very well...as far as adapting to different changes. Of course, we need that now more than ever because...we are at the stage of the greatest change in the history of mankind. Everything is accelerating. We can see this parallel process happening in the world. We can see there are forces of disintegration which are escalating. And this is what our attention...our attention is continuously drawn to that. You turn on CNN...every twenty minutes it rehashes these conditions in the world. And it must have an effect on people, even children.

If all you see is this social collapse, all this political anarchy, all this violence, all of this stuff... this is the...signs of the escalation of the forces of disintegration in the world. But at the same time...it doesn't get a lot of airplay...we're also at a stage...forces of integration are escalating. So that's what we have to do...we have to have the resiliency and the willpower to consciously shift and align ourselves with those forces of integration and all of these good things that are happening...build community and to encourage the youth...And these things are present.

Like you go...for instance, in South Dakota...you travel outside of South Dakota, people are like "Oh you must be from Pine Ridge." Because that is all they hear. It's like the worst place. And all the media focuses on that...all this bad stuff. But there are so many good things going on there that you don't hear about. So this is what we have to do...I'm not saying you have to turn a deaf ear or a blind eye to all of this...it's present. But it should only serve to redouble our efforts...to align ourselves...and to support positive things that are going on.