



**PEACE, LOVE
AND POLITICS**
*A Campaign to
Transform America*

Marianne Williamson ♦ **Mark Fischler** ♦ **Corey deVos**

Insight Map

Peace, Love, and Politics: A Campaign to Transform America

Marianne Williamson, Mark Fischler, and Corey deVos

INDIVIDUAL

INTERIOR

- **Imagination and Expectations:** There is a pervasive failure of imagination in how individuals envision government's role in helping individuals thrive. This manifests as a disconnect between expectations and the reality of what government can provide, leading to dissatisfaction and cynicism.

- **Return to Love:** Marianne Williamson's book, "Return to Love", serves as a testament to the incredible transformative power of love. It suggests that embracing love as a guiding principle in one's life can lead to profound personal growth and spiritual awakening. This insight underscores the importance of love as a fundamental aspect of human consciousness and personal development.

- **Spirituality and Politics:** Marianne Williamson is transforming politics by foregrounding the spirituality and treating civic engagement as a spiritual practice.

- **Declaration of Independence:** Marianne regards the Declaration of Independence as the greatest spiritual and political interface ever put into one document.

- **Alignment of Principles and Actions:** An individual's beliefs and principles serve as the foundation for their actions. The degree to which one's behavior aligns with these principles can significantly influence their personal integrity and authenticity. This alignment, or lack thereof, can lead to introspection, self-awareness, and personal growth.

EXTERIOR

- **Collective Materialism:** Our society is collectively entrapped in a trance of materialism and greed, which is having detrimental effects on the mental health of younger generations.

- **The Paradox of Change:** Society is caught in a paradox between collective longing for transformative change, and collective resistance to change. This suggests a deep-seated cultural tension that needs to be resolved for meaningful social transformation to occur.

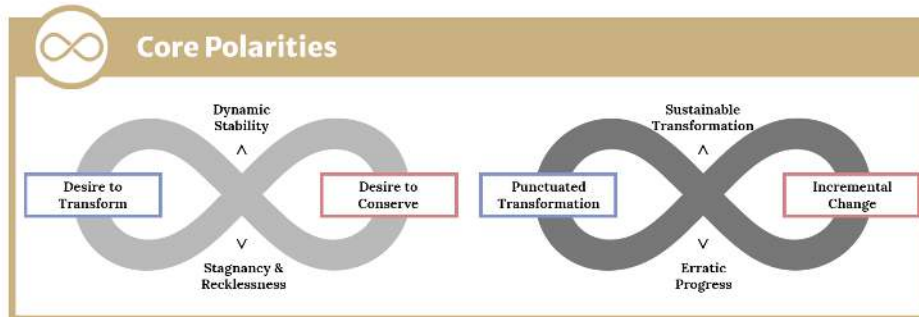
- **Manufacturing Dissent:** Today's culture wars between pathological factions of the Amber traditional stage (e.g. MAGA) and the Green pluralistic stage (e.g. Woke) are in many ways being driven/manufactured by pathological Orange hyper-capitalism and corporate tyranny.

- **The Economic Bill of Rights** includes basic rights such as free childcare, a guaranteed living wage, paid family leave, and guaranteed sick pay. It is inspired by Franklin Roosevelt's Economic Bill of Rights, which was meant to address inherent economic injustice but was never implemented.

- **Corporate Aristocracy:** The United States is facing a corporate aristocracy that is as tyrannous as the landed gentry aristocracy of Old England. This corporate aristocracy is planning to stay and, if allowed, may turn into full-on fascism, which is the marriage of corporate and governmental power.

- **Regulating AI technology** is crucial and technological advancement should be grounded in compassion, forgiveness, and love.

COLLECTIVE



Open Up

Emotional Intelligence: Marianne's Presidential campaign is founded upon principles of love, compassion, and connection, and peace, all of which draw upon our emotional intelligence in order to to both recognize and prioritize these sorts of values.

Spiritual Intelligence: Trying to find meaning and purpose can be difficult in a culture steeped in materialism, greed, and hyper-individualism, requiring us to open our spiritual intelligence to more nourishing and sustainable sources of happiness, fulfillment, and meaning.

Ethical Intelligence: Our world is in desperate need of new ethical leadership, individually and collectively, in order to meet the challenges of our time and regulate any number of systems that have grown dysfunctional and destructive without such oversight.

Wake Up

Subtle State: The power of love extends beyond personal relationships and can be a transformative force in addressing global issues. By cultivating a deeper sense of empathy and compassion, we can shift our perspective and approach to problems like hunger and climate change, leading to more effective and humane solutions.

Witness State: The deep inner quiet of the causal state is a profound source of peace and grace. This tranquility transcends our everyday experiences and concerns, providing a stable foundation amidst the flux of life. By accessing and cultivating this inner peace, we can bring a sense of grace and serenity into our daily lives, influencing our interactions and decisions in a positive way.

Nondual State: The peace we seek in the world is inseparable from the peace within us. In the nondual state, inner and outer peace reflect each other. Cultivating inner peace contributes to world peace, and working towards world peace nurtures inner peace. This insight invites us to see personal growth and social action as interconnected paths to peace.

[00:00:00] **Corey deVos:** Mark Fischler. How you doing, man?

[00:00:01] **Mark Fischler:** Hey, good, brother Corey. It's good to see you. I know you're about to leave on your journey to Europe, and I'm excited for you. You got some wonderful places you're going. So many blessings, on your path ahead.

[00:00:15] **Corey deVos:** Yeah, we're really looking forward to it. And I'm really especially looking forward to what we have in store today. So we've got a special guest today, and we're very, very excited for this. I just wanna introduce everyone to Marianne Williamson. Marianne, how are you doing?

[00:00:30] **Marianne Williamson:** I am doing well. Thank you. Thank you for having me.

[00:00:32] **Corey deVos:** Yeah, it is such a delight to be here with you today. And just to let our audience know, Marianne is a really widely renowned, author, activist, and spiritual leader who's probably already familiar with our audience, because this is actually the third time that you've been on our web platform, which is pretty cool. So back in 2007, you did a pair of interviews with Bert Parlee about A Course in Miracles and about the Peace Alliance. And then just a couple years ago you did a panel discussion with Ken Wilber and Deepak Chopra and Sebastian Siegel about the Grace and Grit movie.

So, you know, our audience is already pretty familiar with you and I'm just really excited, this is my first time actually hanging out with you, so it is just a pleasure to be here with you today.

[00:01:18] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you. Thank you so much.

[00:01:20] **Corey deVos:** And you and Mark have known each other for a little while now, right?

[00:01:24] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah.

[00:01:25] **Marianne Williamson:** Yes, I, as you know, I'm running for President and Mark is in New Hampshire. And, nothing's more important than New Hampshire when you're running for president. So, in addition to the philosophical and intellectual interests that we share, Mark's in New Hampshire, and I'm running for President, so we have a connection that takes it into a place that people who do not live in primary states cannot possibly understand, but which people who do live in primary states understand quite well.

[00:01:55] **Mark Fischler:** Totally. I mean I remember reaching out to Marianne, Nicole and I are in the house and you know, she calls me back, you call me back, and it's Marianne Williamson. Nicole's like, "uh, Marianne Williamson's on the phone for you." And you've been great to my family and so...

[00:02:13] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you.

[00:02:14] **Mark Fischler:** I'm really honored to have you. And your book, *The Return to Love*, as I've shared with you, is I consider one of the great spiritual classics, and really moved me, and deeply. So, you know, Marianne, for others that don't know, she's a four-time bestseller, at least, maybe even more. And we were just, I was on a call with, the Sedona Integral Crew, and they were singing your praises, which got me thinking, "let me reach out, because she's really resonating with the integral community."

[00:02:46] **Marianne Williamson:** That makes me very happy. Thank you. And of course, I have known Ken Wilber for years and, you know, I think there's one truth spoken in many different ways. And so I think all of the great religious spiritual traditions, plus such things as the integral work of Ken Wilber, all mesh and dovetail.

[00:03:06] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah.

[00:03:06] **Marianne Williamson:** Like you, you know, truth, when you read it, when you see it, once you're into those kinds of conversations.

[00:03:13] **Corey deVos:** That's beautifully said and that actually, you know, Marianne leads me to one of the first questions I have for you, which is, you know, I think... when I see what you're doing in the political arena, it's really something extraordinary, and

something that's deeply transformative. Because I think what you're actually doing is, in a way that is much more explicit than we are accustomed to seeing, you are basically trying to integrate spirituality on the one hand, and politics on the other. I mean, it feels like in a certain way, you are holding politics or really civic engagement itself almost as a spiritual practice.

And I'm really curious about how you go about thinking about this, because, you know, I think one of the things that we could probably talk about are the challenges when it comes to having a spiritual impulse, particularly a transformative spiritual impulse, but then communicating that across a population that just has so many different conceptions of what that word "spiritual" actually means. I mean, so many different conceptions of what the word politics even means, at the same time.

So, you know, we often like to talk about how, all these spiritual paths, they share a common core, an esoteric core that gets sort of, translated or interpreted very differently from context to context, tradition to tradition. You're in the political arena, where you're basically running up against all of those contexts, all of those traditions. So how do you hold that sort of ground? How do you hold that spiritual kind of center when interfacing with so many different kinds of people who relate to terms like that in fairly different ways?

[00:04:48] **Marianne Williamson:** There is a template that I think is the greatest spiritual and political interface ever put into one document, and it's called the Declaration of Independence. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." That is as much a spiritual perspective as it is a political one. That God gave all men inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which we would say, God gave all men the right to self-actualize.

[00:05:22] **Corey deVos:** Mm-hmm.

[00:05:23] **Marianne Williamson:** Those are two spiritual concepts. Then you add to that the political, which is that the government is instituted to secure those rights, which is a radically different conception of government than had ever been posited on the earth. And then it goes even further, further radicalism, that it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish that government if it's not doing its job.

Now in a national life, as well as in an individual life, everything emanates from your first principles. What do you believe in, what do you stand on, and where do you, and where do you not, align your behavior with your principles?

So to me, the Declaration of Independence is our national calling. It's our blueprint. It's our North Star. When we follow it, this country does okay. When we deviate from it, we falter. And we're faltering right now.

So every single problem that I see in the United States is solved, first and foremost, by asking ourselves, "where does this policy or that either align or not align with the principles of 'all men are created equal?'" God gave us all inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and it is the government's job to secure those things.

And then when you talk about civic activism, if you add that it's the right of the people to alter it or abolish it if it's not doing that job, that's the note to the people. If they're not doing that, do something about it.

So to me, that's mountaintop. Mountaintop spiritually, and mountaintop politically. And the people who wrote that were standing on both mountains.

[00:07:11] **Mark Fischler:** You know, it's really interesting Marianne, that you align very much with, I think, probably our most spiritual president, Abraham Lincoln in his kind of foundational focus the Declaration of Independence. You know, when the Gettysburg address, right, "Four score and seven years", he's talking about the Declaration of Independence. He's not talking about the Constitution. And, you know, that's maybe the greatest speech that's ever been given. And, so your core values, it's just beautifully said, and it's so eloquent and it's complex, but it's simple. And that's what makes it so powerful.

[00:07:57] **Marianne Williamson:** You know, I read a book last year, Mark, called *There Was Light*, about Lincoln. And in that book, it goes some depth into what you were just saying. To him, the entire basis of abolition, the entire basis of the Civil War, people talk about how he did it to save the union. Definitely that's in there. But by the time of his second election, which he expected to lose, and the reason he expected to lose it was

because, as we know, people had thought that that war was gonna last six weeks. As it turned out, it lasted four years, and between six and seven hundred thousand people died. Now, people in the north particularly had had it. They said, why are our sons being sent to die? Because a bunch of southern states have slaves. So the person who was running against Lincoln in his second race was voicing what millions of people were saying, which is "tell the southern states, can come home, you can keep your slaves, well, you can keep your slaves, just come back to the union."

And he expected to lose, and people were saying to him, you've got to just let them have their slaves, you've got to just let them have their slaves." He, however, said, "there's a bigger issue here than saving the union, and that is the Declaration of Independence." You cannot say all men are created equal and have slavery. You can't. So we could save the union, but we would've lost the unifying principle.

So you're absolutely right. That was Lincoln. And of course, in Declaration of Independence of the people that those men who died, he said, had given their last full measure of devotion, he said, so that a government of the people by the people and for the people would not perish from the earth.

Now for me, and the *raison d'etre* for my campaign is that it's perishing now, it's perishing on our watch. We are, for all intents and purposes, a government of the corporations by the corporations, for the corporations. That is diametrically opposed to of the people, by the people, and for the people. And the government that has created and maintained that disconnection of government, of the corporation by the corporation for the corporations, will not repair itself. They will not disrupt that. There's too much money to be made, there's too much power at stake, and they're not gonna do it. And if it gets done, it's because we the people step in and intervene.

[00:10:33] **Corey deVos:** I like that you guys brought up Lincoln, because one of the things that a lot of people are seeing these days, is that the amount of cultural and political polarization that we're seeing today is on par with what we were seeing in the buildup to the Civil War. And a lot of people are very concerned that, we're not gonna be able to sort of put the toothpaste back in the tube right now. Right? Like, that something is emerging right now that is in many ways fragmenting, fracturing, and breaking up our shared, kind of cohesive vision of this country and our shared national identity. And

we've never seen sort of so many warring factions in this country since the Civil War.

So one of my questions was gonna be, Marianne, how does a Marianne Williamson presidency start to heal that wound? How do we start pulling people back together into a common, shared, mutual understanding of each other, and a respect for the founding documents of this country, and a respect for the dignities of the individual over sort of the oppression that we start seeing coming from the top down, from the corporations, through the government, to the people?

[00:11:46] **Marianne Williamson:** The opposition itself was artificially created. This is what tyrants do. So the real issue is not that the left is your problem or that the right is your problem. There are people who want us all to think that. The real problem is those who are above us all, those who hold the vast majority of wealth and power in this country are the same forces creating despair among people who cannot economically survive on the left, and people who cannot economically survive on the right. The people who hold, the small group of people who hold that majority of our resources know that if the people were onto them, the gig would be over. So they want to keep the people divided, because if the people were not divided, looking at each other saying "you're the problem," they would figure out, "no, you're the problem." It's one of those Don't Look Up things. So of course it's always "who can we scapegoat today? Who can we say is the problem?" And so, you know, people on the right who say, "ooh, it's the Mexicans who are the problem, it's the gays who are a problem, it's the transgenders who are a problem, it's the Jews who are the problem, it's the blacks who are the problem. it's whomever. And then on the left as well, there is a, you know, the problem is those people who are doing that.

So I think that there is an awakening going on, and hopefully my campaign is helping to inspire more of that awakening. That the real problem is not other Americans, this country belongs to all of us. When you say, let's go back to those founding principles, "out of many, one". Nobody gets to have a monopoly on truth in this country. No one gets a monopoly on ownership, except that there is a group that has a monopoly on ownership. They're neither left nor right. They don't really... those are people who, for the most part, don't care who's in power because they have bought them all, no matter what.

And that's the real dichotomy here, between the rich and the poor, between those who have power versus those who do not have power. And that, I think, is what more and more people on both sides of the political spectrum are beginning to wake up to. This country has been played, and one of the ways that people have been played is by all the ways that we are tempted to blame those who actually are just suffering as much as we are. So, you know, they're not your problem. The problem is those who are making life so hard for both of you.

[00:14:18] **Corey deVos:** Fascinating. Beautiful answer. Yeah, no, and I think Mark and I in previous episodes have talked about how so much of the sort of culture war rhetoric seemed to really ramp up in the wake of Occupy Wall Street, for example.

[00:14:30] **Marianne Williamson:** Of course it did.

[00:14:31] **Corey deVos:** Right?

[00:14:32] **Marianne Williamson:** Hello? Yeah. Because people started to figure it out.

[00:14:36] **Corey deVos:** Yeah. Another thing we often talk about in integral circles are, you know, these stages of development, how human beings mature over time, both individually and collectively. And so much of the focus these days in the media is on the pathological sort of versions of some of particular stages, right? We really focus on sort of the pathologies and the, the unhealthy versions of traditionalism, example, which we often see in like the MAGA movement. And then we also like to talk about the, you know, the extremes of the green pluralistic post-modern side, which look something like wokism. So we have this sort of, you know, these two options that are being presented to America. You can be woke or you can be MAGA. And they both really seem to represent sort the dysfunctional stages that are really asserting themselves.

So we have a, you know, we talk about the Amber traditional meme, then we have the Orange rational modern meme, and then we have the Green post-modern meme. And really what we seem to be seeing here is an Orange corporate capitalist structure that is so unhealthy and sort of out of balance, that is generating tension between Amber excesses and Green excesses in order to keep people distracted from the Orange

excesses.

In other words, it's all sort of a shell game that's taking place on behalf of, you know, the corporations, the five or so corporations that own like 90% of the media in this country, in order to keep people at each other's throats so that we don't start looking at the actual source of the problems, which is the corporations themselves. And which I think you are directly addressing in things like your Economic Bill of Rights.

[00:16:17] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, when you first started talking about the pathology of MAGA or the pathology of wokism, I was waiting for you to get to the biggest pathology of all. The biggest pathological factor of all is hyper-capitalism, vulture capitalism, crony capitalism. And that actually manufactures for its own purposes the smaller forms of pathology. MAGA will come and go, wokism will come and go. But hyper-capitalism, unfettered capitalism, a capitalism completely disconnected from any kind of ethical consideration... which is contrary not only to the Declaration of Independence, it's contrary even to the original articulation of, capitalism by Adam Smith. Adam Smith said that free market capitalism cannot exist outside an ethical center.

So this is an evil spawn, as it were, of any original capitalist invention. You know, we can argue all day, well, is capitalism inherently exploitative? I don't think that's the deeper question. The deeper question for now is the form of capitalism, this unfettered greed machine, which is like a heat seeking missile for anywhere where profit might be possible. And it actually sees human despair as the most fertile field of all for its malfeasance, because when people are desperate, they'll do anything to get the product.

For instance, financial institutions turning young people in America trying to get an education into its own greed machine. So here are these people carrying tens of thousands of dollars of college loan debt, when all they wanted to do was to spread their wings, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That's all they wanted to do was try to get an education so they could have more of a career, so they could self-actualize.

Same with healthcare, that's why we don't have universal healthcare, because of the insurance companies. Why people are rationing their insulin, putting GoFundMe pages up on the internet to pay for lifesaving operations, because of insurance companies,

pharmaceutical companies. It's why the toxicity in our food, our water, our air, big chemical companies, big food companies, big agricultural companies, unsafe streets, gun manufacturers. Unsafe planet, increasingly dangerous in terms of climate change, because of big oil companies. And of course foreign policy that is dominated far too often by considerations having to do with short term profit for the military industrial complex, rather than any serious effort, to create a peaceful world.

This is a corporate aristocracy at this point, and it is tyrannous. It is tyrannous no less than the landed gentry aristocracy of Old England was tyrannous. And in 1776 we said "hell no" to that. We threw the tea back in the water and it's time to throw the tea back in the water again.

[00:19:07] **Corey deVos:** Beautifully said. Yeah. And just to be clear, that is exactly what I was trying to characterize as sort of that Orange gone wrong, that sort of modern stage that has gone even more pathological than we see on the political left or the political Right. And it's happening kind of surreptitiously.

[00:19:22] **Marianne Williamson:** Those are baby pathologies. Those are baby pathologies that came and go. One day MAGA won't be here, one day wokism won't be here, they'll be old news. But the hyper capitalist hostage taking of the US government plans to stay. And if we allow it to stay, it will turn into full on fascism, because that's what fascism is, is that marriage of corporate and governmental power.

[00:19:45] **Corey deVos:** That's such an important point. We've got these surface feature dysfunctions, but then we have these deep feature dysfunctions, which can take on different surface appearances at different times in different cultures, et cetera. But, you know, the real problem I think you're pointing to is that really deep-seated, and again, largely unexamined kind of corporate role in all of this and how they are generating so much of the cultural conflict that we're experiencing as Americans.

[00:20:11] **Mark Fischler:** It seems to me, in a lot of what you say, Marianne, I finished last year the three volume biography of Teddy Roosevelt. And Ted was pointing some of these things out in the early 20th century about hyper-capitalism and, you know, the aristocracy of America. and he certainly wasn't a great friend of those folks as he pointed that stuff out. So I appreciate you continuing that clarion call. But you know... there's not a "but" here, but just to support, I see that with this hyper-capitalism, there's

a hyper-focus on materialism, and that from a spiritual perspective, we know is a misguided notion of where we find meaning in life. And so, you know, I feel like part of your drive is to help awaken America to a deeper spiritual understanding of what gives meaning in life, because it's not with materialism, and it will never be. And it will never bring happiness, it will never be able to self-actualize. They're even starting to figure that out in terms of, you know, wealth amounts, diminishing returns the higher you get at times. So I appreciate your vision and your ability to see that this hyper-capitalism to me is this, you know, hyper-focus on materialism. And we know from a spiritual perspective that is not where it's at. In fact, it creates suffering,

[00:21:53] **Corey deVos:** Hmm

[00:21:54] **Marianne Williamson:** Hyper-capitalism turns everything into a commodity. It turns everything into a commodity, and that, of course, is a material thing, as opposed to the spiritual reality of community. But more than that, an exploitative hyper capitalism, which has come up with the trickle-down paradigm where there's such a massive transfer of wealth into the hands of 1% of our people, has atomized everyone and turns everyone into this very separate silo. Why? Because everybody's living on some level of dog-eat-dog survival. So if I'm having to spend all of my time just trying to stay above water, because I don't even have decent benefits, or I don't even make a living wage and I can't afford an apartment and I'm afraid of being evicted, I don't even have the bandwidth for community. I don't have the bandwidth to really be there for my lovers, my friends, my spouse, my children, my community. And 70 to 80% of Americans are living in that space, of some level of chronic economic anxiety.

Now in my career, I think the process that took me into the political focus on the level that it now is, has to do with the fact that when my career began 40 years ago, people whose lives were in serious trouble seemed to be the exception rather than the rule. Now, people living with this level of just chronic tension and anxiety because they have to work more than one job and all of the lack of benefits and all that goes along with that, it comes from our economic policies and also from everything else you and I have talked about, has created a situation where a certain level of despair seems to be a feature of the American experience. Now, does this jive with the fact that we're the richest country in the world? Well, it's because our government, the people who are in control of our government, for the most part, are not aligned with the notion that it is government's job to help people thrive. They'll just throw, "oh, you're a communist. You're a socialist." Which is exactly what they threw at Roosevelt. He didn't care that

they called him names and that they vehemently opposed him. He said, " I welcome their hatred." They are, he said, economic royalists. But the economic royalists today are headquartered in both political parties, much more in the Republican than the Democrat.

But I'll tell you something, "we're not them" is no longer enough.

[00:24:16] **Corey deVos:** Right.

[00:24:17] **Marianne Williamson:** It's no longer enough. And not only is it no longer enough philosophically, I don't even think it'll be enough to win in 2024. I think that in order to win in 2024, we have to actually offer the American people a compelling vision, an alternative to the corporate tyranny that is now in our midst. And that stems from going back to the principles of the Declaration of Independence. Who does this government belong to? If the government is of the people, by the people, and for the people, then we are really on the wrong track. And we are on the wrong track. And that needs to be fixed right now.

[00:24:55] **Mark Fischler:** So Marianne, tell us what is that? You've shared eloquently how we're on the wrong track. How do we get on the right track? What do you see as the antidote to this disastrous crisis that we're in where, you know, even relating to what you said about, you know, we have to just focus on ourself and we have no space for a community, you know the deeper realization again, right, is there's no "I" without a "we", you can look at Ken's four quadrant model, and there it's a part of who we are. And so to actually ignore that reality is perilous for our wellbeing. So what are you seeing or what are you feeling like are some of the answers here?

[00:25:42] **Marianne Williamson:** We need an economic U-turn in this country. We need universal healthcare. We need tuition-free college and tech school. We need free childcare. We need a guaranteed living wage. We need a paid family leave, and we need guaranteed sick pay. Now, I have put these principles, plus a few more, in something called an Economic Bill of Rights.

Now, what Roosevelt did, was that Roosevelt talked about the four freedoms. Two of them were the "freedoms of" that we know: freedom of religion, freedom of protest and

assembly. But then he put "freedom from" want and "freedom from" fear. And that want and fear is really the emotional state that is causing so much of this opposition and this angry energy that is in the country today.

So those are the policies. Those policies that I mentioned are all considered mainstream policy positions in every other advanced democracy.

Now, some people say, well how, you know, would you make it happen? And they try to use that actually to minimize my campaign. The truth of the matter is though, no matter who you are, you hope to have a House and Senate that goes along with you and wants to play ball. If you do, then you can go so much further. If you don't, however, then you have executive orders and you have the bully pulpit. I'm not saying that, if/when I'm President that I can make all those things happen because I have a magic wand. The President doesn't have a magic wand. The President shouldn't have a magic wand. But I'll tell you something, people would have a visceral recognition that during my administration, we began to turn this ship around. Because I would do what it takes. There's no reason for me to stand back because if I go too far, the insurance companies will be angry. There's no reason for me to stand back because if I go too far, defense contractors will be angry. I'm not of that system.

[00:27:40] **Corey deVos:** Mm-hmm.

[00:27:43] **Mark Fischler:** That's beautiful. That's really powerful. Just to have the courage to say, "I'm just not gonna play ball that way", to have that level of integrity to stand on principle, is welcome to our ears, I think, because it's so absent in the political system. And, you know, again, you have to harken back to a Lincoln or a Roosevelt and, you know, to have somebody who's really gonna stand for something. And that is for the wellbeing of all Americans. And really taking into account, I think on a spiritual level, you know, their inner dignity, their worth, and ensuring that that wellbeing on the outside physically, and mentally, subjectively, will be taken care of. And, that's holiness in action. So thank you for sharing.

[00:28:40] **Corey deVos:** Hmm. Yeah Marianne, I really like on your website I saw that you used the phrase, " "Americans have been suffering from a failure of imagination." I think that's such a critical point. Because of course we can only... our imaginations are based on our accumulated experiences and wisdoms and so forth of things that we've

actually encountered in our lives. And a lot of Americans just simply cannot imagine a system that is more functional than the one that we've inherited. Right? There's sort of a fatalism, I think, where we kind of submit to the system, and we really just have to, we feel pressured in a certain kind of way to just like, well, I've gotta, "I've gotta figure out how to make my way through this system and, you know, take care of my family and put food on my table" and there's not a lot of opportunity to back up and start having a more transformative conversation that actually allows us to imagine a little bit bigger, a little bit bolder.

And I think this is one of the contributions that you're making to the political discourse right now, is you're helping people to imagine bigger and to imagine bolder. You're actually reminding people like, you're not stuck here. You are not as stuck here as you think you are, or as you've been led to believe that you are. And that the American people actually have more choices available to them than we realize we do.

[00:29:57] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, what you're saying is so true. We have been trained to limit our political imaginations. And I think part of the value of my age is that I remember a time when more people would've guffawed, "what the hell you talking about?" You know, when I was a kid, Blue Cross Blue Shield was a nonprofit. And until the 1960s and 70s, there were colleges all over the country that had free college and near free tuition in tech school. University of Texas system, University of California. So I remember a time when it wasn't like this. But you are absolutely right. Generations have come along that have never seen it any different. So they don't have that rambunctiousness that my generation would've had. "What the hell is this?"

Because I remember a time when it wasn't this way. You know, I remember people protesting in the streets before they came up with protest zones. Yeah, you can protest, but two blocks away. Which means that the person whose face you're trying to get in will not be inconvenienced by your driving by. Someone my age goes, "what the hell is this?" Hmm. And it breaks my heart sometimes when the only rambunctiousness like that that I see, is on the right.

[00:31:01] **Corey deVos:** Mm-hmm. Yeah, that's such an important point, because you know, again, earlier we talked about the differences between transformation on the one hand and translation, right? We like to talk about the most transformative presidents in history. You know, we're talking about Lincoln here, we're talking about Roosevelt here.

You know, we're talking about people who actually structurally transformed how this country works. And then you've got sort of those in between presidents, which are basically maintaining a certain kind of status quo. Right? And I think every election cycle has a perception of who is the status quo option, the translative option, versus who's the transformative option.

And too often it seems like the left is ceding the transformative impulse to people like Donald Trump, because for a lot of people in this country, when they saw a contest between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, they actually saw Donald Trump as being the more transformative candidate. Now, I would disagree. I think Trump was clearly a transformative candidate, but maybe not in the direction that we would've liked to see ourselves going. It's not really a n up-leveling transformation. It's, you know, sort of a little bit more regressive. But the point is, I think people are hungry for some kind of transformation, even if it's just like, "let's shake things up and see where the pieces fall afterwards." I think people are so desperate for change right now that people like Donald Trump are more viable than ever, while the left just, you know, continues to put up the same sort of status quo leadership styles that we've been seeing for decades.

[00:32:33] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, in 2008, we thought that Obama was the more transformative character, and Hillary was the more transactional. In retrospect, I think we were wrong.

[00:32:42] **Corey deVos:** Interesting.

[00:32:44] **Mark Fischler:** Tell us why. Why do you feel that way?

[00:32:47] **Marianne Williamson:** Once he got in he was just like the rest of 'em once he got in there. What we thought we were electing in 2008, we thought we were electing this great transformative figure. And from the minute he got in, he was playing ball with the corporatists.

[00:32:59] **Corey deVos:** Hmm.

[00:33:01] **Marianne Williamson:** We gave him a mandate, this is what, all those John Favreau speeches made us believe we were being asked for.

In terms of the more transformative figure now, you say that people want change, but what I notice running for President is how afraid people are of change. I'll give you an example. This President has signed the Willow Project. I have said that I would cancel it on day one. The President has given more oil drilling permits than even Trump did at this time in his presidency, I have said that I would begin a massive mobilization for a transition from a dirty economy to a clean economy, a just transition that we would begin ramping down rather than ramping up oil extraction. And yet you have people in major environmental organizations, when asked, who are you gonna support for president, are still saying, "well, we gotta go with Biden, what else do we have?" And I feel so invisible when somebody says that, I feel so erased when somebody says that. Excuse me, did you not hear what I said?

But it goes back to what you were saying, it's kind of like the elephants who, when the fence is removed, are still programmed to stay within the parameters of the fence. So you say they want change, but then from my own experience, I can tell you how often people, when confronted by the actual possibility of change, go. Well, I don't know about that."

[00:34:28] **Corey deVos:** Right.

[00:34:29] **Marianne Williamson:** Even when it, you know, somebody says, "well, I don't want a spoiler." Well, this one's, myself here, running for a primary, running there's no spoiler effect. So people I find are very... they say they want change, they say they want transformation, but actually collective ego default position is "let's just go with the same old, same old," because it's a perverse kind of comfort zone.

[00:34:50] **Corey deVos:** Such an insightful point, such an insightful point, because I really do feel both simultaneously, I feel this, very deep desire in the public for change, as well as this resistance to change. I mean, it feels almost like a psychological shadow sort of writ large. Right? We're sort of, we have this attraction to an idea that we actually also have a lot of resistance to, which I think is interesting.

And the Obama conversation, you know, I share some disappointment over the Obama administration and how sort of, you know, not bold, not bold enough they were. I will say this though, that, you know, the Obamacare transformation a deep impact on my own family. So I have a daughter who was born with a chronic liver disease, and required a liver transplant when she was one and a half years old. She's doing awesome now. You know, medical miracles abound and all that. But feel to this day grateful that in her life, she's not gonna have to worry about things like preexisting conditions, for example, when it comes to, you know, her, , medical conditions. So that, that was a socially transformative piece that Obama brought, it's just that I feel like there could have been so much more.

[00:36:01] **Marianne Williamson:** And that's really what we're talking about here. He went as far as the insurance companies would let him go. And I think part of what you're saying is appropriate in the case of Joe Biden as well. It's incremental change. There are some good things that the president has done and for which he deserves credit, namely that he defeated Trump to begin with. But when you consider how unsustainable the level of human despair is in this country, helping people to be able to survive an unjust system is not enough. We need to end the injustice. It's not enough to ameliorate stress, we need serious economic reform.

And that is absolutely wonderful about your daughter. It's incredible. And there should be universal healthcare, so it shouldn't even be a problem for anyone.

[00:36:44] **Corey deVos:** A hundred percent. agree. A hundred percent agree.

[00:36:48] **Mark Fischler:** So Marianne, tell us maybe some things on the social justice side, there's gonna be a big affirmative action decision, I think, coming down. do you see on the social justice front in terms of poverty, et cetera?

[00:37:05] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, we have the highest poverty rate of any advanced democracy. It's outrageous. We have over 3 million evictions in this country every year, which is what it was at the height of the housing crisis. And that's why the Economic Bill of Rights is so important. And the Economic Bill of Rights is what, Franklin Roosevelt had come up with towards the end of the war and was ready to roll out after the war's completion. Of course, he never had a chance to do that. To me, the end of the inherent economic injustice at the core of how we operate today is... the biggest

blow to a socially unjust system is to really strike a blow to the level of economic injustice. Everything from the fact, another example of Biden, you have a third of America's workforce who is living on less than \$15 an hour and cannot afford an apartment where they live. We don't even have an \$8 minimum wage nationally, and even at \$15 there are cities in this country where it's not a living wage, there are major cities in this country where 22, 23, 24 25 is the living wage. So that's the first thing you do.

The President has said that he would raise the minimum wage, he did raise it to 15 for federal workers. But when it came to taking that further, extending it to everyone, getting it into the bill, the Parliamentarian said it didn't belong there. Now excuse me, the Republicans would never allow the Parliamentarian to stop them if they wanted to do something. She had no political authority. But the President, how convenient was that? "Oh, I can't do it. I'm so sorry. I can't do it, the Parliamentarian won't let me." Another thing he's refused to do is just pick up the phone to the national archivist and make sure the ERA is actually published, because if it was, there is over a trillion dollars in wage gap between men and women for that reason alone.

When you look at our criminal justice system, black people are liable to get a sentence that's about 20% longer than the white person gets for the same crime. One of the issues there, of course, is that I do stand for reparations for slavery. So whether it has to do with guaranteed housing, whether it has to do with guaranteed living wage, you can look at any of the great social justice issues of our time, and the underlying platelet is economics. And that's why I believe my Economic Bill of Rights, mentioning the things that I've talked about here, including a beefed up support for labor in this country, sectoral bargaining and so forth, is a part of that.

We are living now the second Gilded Age. And the first Gilded Age was responded to with the establishment of the New Deal. We need a better deal. That's what we need. The American people need a better deal.

[00:39:54] **Mark Fischler:** It's such a tough situation right now, because, I mean, you've got a Supreme Court that really kind of supports, at least from a 30,000 foot view, you know, not very union-friendly. Right?

[00:40:12] **Marianne Williamson:** That's putting it very kindly.

[00:40:14] **Corey deVos:** Yeah, that's that's pretty diplomatic.

[00:40:16] **Marianne Williamson:** We all know, we all know each other here, we can be honest. They are complete mouthpieces for the corporatist order. Five of them are, not all of them.

[00:40:25] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah.

[00:40:26] **Corey deVos:** Would you fix that, Marianne? If you were, if you were President would you be pushing for a transformation of the court?

[00:40:31] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, first of all, Trump unfortunately was able to appoint three justices. So you always hope, whoever you are as president, you hope to be able to have slots to fill so that you can bring someone from a different sensibility and different perspective onto the court. In the meantime, the question of packing the court, making it bigger, should be open. There's nothing in the Constitution that says it has to be limited to nine people. So absolutely, I would be open to that. I would be open to anything that returns this country and this government to its people. With anything within the power of the presidency, wielding responsibly the power of the presidency, I would be open to doing what it takes. Absolutely.

[00:41:12] **Corey deVos:** So what about, speaking of that, so here's a particular one that I love thinking about, because I feel like it would unlock, it would unstick so much country. And that's around repealing the 1929 Reapportionment Act,

which places an artificial limit on the number of House members in Congress. Right? It pegged it so now we have these, you know, we have certain representatives who are representing a vastly larger number of people than others. So what do you think about the idea of repealing something like the Reapportionment Act, and implementing something like the Wyoming rule, right? Where the region with the smallest population becomes the default number of people that each representative represents. Would that be a good sort of path toward a more equitable politics?

[00:41:54] **Marianne Williamson:** Right, well the bill that you're talking about, of course, set the number at 435 and won't let it go any larger. So absolutely repealing that. In terms of the Wyoming act, I'm not sure enough, I don't know enough about it to know if that's the total solution, but repealing the other so that we're not stuck with the 435, absolutely.

And of course, the gerrymandering is a big part of the problem as well. These should be independent commissions and it should end the shenanigans that go on in the state houses. Of course, the problem you have with a lot of that, is that it's not federal law. You know, it's state.

[00:42:26] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah, we actually had that, the state legislature tried to do some gerrymandering and fortunately our governor overruled it. And that was a good thing. But yeah, the gerrymandering.

I think about the court, an answer I've thought a little bit about is, some other people have thrown it out there, is having it so that it's a term limited seat, where you draft people from the circuit court of appeals and they get drafted and pulled up to the Supreme Court for a certain number of years, and then go back down to the circuit court of appeals for the rest of their time, and you just kind of geographically move folks from different parts of the country in the different circuits up to the Supreme Court for a certain allotted amount of time. I thought that might start to take some of the political gaming out of it, but you know, I'm not fully convinced. I wonder what you think.

[00:43:27] **Marianne Williamson:** I mean, if our system worked, you know, right now what you've got is Senate affirmation that has to be given. And when you look at the Senate hearings for the Supreme Court, the idea that the President nominates someone and then the whole country gets to look at those proceedings, the Senate gets to, you know, give their full attention to whether or not that person should be nominated... if that system itself were not so corrupt at this point, if people were not voting up and down their ideological prejudices no matter what, then that system would work fairly well. I'm not sure that the one you just mentioned would give us enough. It would not give us enough faith. And, you know, it's not like we have faith in the Supreme Court today. I mean, look at what's happening with Clarence Thomas with the fact that so many of them are clearly mouthpieces for the corporate order. But I'm not sure that would be fixed by what you mentioned, Mark. It would be a bunch of people that none of us knew,

changing all the time. I'm not sure that's quite the answer.

You know, this system has become so corrupt and that corruption now infuses everything, including the court. I think there's a certain level in which the corruption itself, not just on the level of money, but on the level of our hearts and our minds, there has to be an ethical course correction, without which there is no outer remedy that's gonna fix it all.

[00:44:54] **Mark Fischler:** Mm-hmm.

[00:44:54] **Marianne Williamson:** We need a revolution of ethics in this country.

[00:44:58] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah. I mean my only pushback on that was I think it would bring a greater scrutiny to when we appoint a circuit court judge to the circuit court of appeals in the different geography region, so that it would be a little bit more like you're a potential Supreme Court judge, and so we're gonna give you a lot more attention. And then, you know, you get drafted up and then you're held to account. And plus at the lower courts, they're held to a higher level of ethics and responsibility.

[00:45:28] **Marianne Williamson:** Wasn't that amazing, that only the Supreme Court has no ethical rules?

[00:45:32] **Corey deVos:** Yeah.

[00:45:33] **Mark Fischler:** Right, right.

[00:45:33] **Marianne Williamson:** And then you see what Clarence Thomas has done, and then you see John Roberts saying "there's no problem here. There's no problem. There's no problem here."

[00:45:41] **Mark Fischler:** That was quite discouraging. That was quite discouraging. What do you think, Marianne, switching subjects, what about foreign policy? What do you see going on? You know, every day we are hit with Ukraine and the troubling situation over there. And just, how do you see, you know, the relationship with China,

which doesn't feel very stable or very positive? And you know, with NATO, Mexico, right? I mean, there's all kinds of stuff going on. Where are you at? What, do you see?

[00:46:16] **Marianne Williamson:** Well, when you look at Ukraine, clearly the United States meddled, and that is putting it mildly. I don't think any of us should be proud of some of the American behavior regarding NATO, regarding the promises that had been made to Russia about no expansion going east, about the Aegis missiles, and so forth. All of that is true, and I don't think any of us should be giving a pass to the US foreign policy establishment, the blob, the war machine, none of us should be naive about that.

But at the same time, I'm uncomfortable with giving Vladimir Putin a pass. If you are anti-imperialist, of course you wanna be vigorously opposed to the imperialistic adventures of the United States. But we should also be vigorously opposed to the imperialism of Vladimir Putin. And this is not just imperialism. He is a brutal, brutal dictator. And so while I'm not happy at some of the things that built up to this, I'm not happy with what happened when Boris Johnson went over there. I'm not happy about enough Naftali Bennett's conversation and how it seems to be have been undermined by the Americans.

I'm not naive about any of that. However, I also believe that when you look at the spirit with which the Ukrainians are fighting, that kind of fighting does not come from people who are just doing something at the behest of the US government. These people are fighting for their sovereignty. So right now, particularly while the Battle of Bakhmut still rages, clearly it's got to be a negotiated settlement. Everybody gets that, it's the only possibility. Denmark has made overtures for a summit, but they have said it can't just be Ukraine's allies. It's gotta also be India. It's gotta be Brazil. It's got to be China. You know, the United States has got to become far more humble in our foreign policy. It is not a unipolar world anymore. And one of the reasons we do not have the power that we used to have is because we wielded it so irresponsibly in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

So we should support a diplomatic solution, but I would definitely support it being a diplomatic solution in which Ukraine has a chance to continue to exist as a nation. If we just pulled out all support right this second, that to me is not a pro-peace position. Believe me, there would be no peace, it would be a crushing war. It would be a crushing climax of the war. Russia would just so crush Ukraine, it would no longer exist. And that,

I would not support that on my watch.

Now, this issue of it not being a unipolar world, this takes us to China. I think we all need to pull back. Now you were talking earlier, Corey, about how the feeling in the United States is almost like a cold civil war, there's this feeling almost pre-cold war of us with China right now. Everybody needs to back up and take a deep breath. We have been stupid over the last two decades, how much for the sake of Chinese money we were willing, to give to the Chinese, making it much easier for them to take advantage of certain issues of American workers, American industry, American technology, and so forth. We are where we are. We have to not be selfish as a generation. We have to think about our children and our children's children. All three of us have children. I now have a grandchild. This is not just about us, it's about future generations. And we have some really, really big issues about which no solution will be possible without the collaboration of countries like the United States and China.

One of those that I feel very strongly about, obviously, is climate change. The other one I feel very strongly about is AI.

[00:49:49] **Corey deVos:** I was just gonna ask about AI.

[00:49:51] **Marianne Williamson:** You know, we just, we have to wake up and smell the coffee here. So, you know, even Donald Rumsfeld said we have to learn how to wage peace. This is why I want a Department of Peace, because we have to play peace games now, the way we've been playing war games. We cannot solve all our problems through a military solution, anymore than we can solve all our problems by building more prisons. We have to have a more holistic integrative approach to the world, to healing our civilization, to healing the planet.

And so when you talk about foreign policy, we must be firm, we must be wise, we must not be naive. But at the same time, we need to stand up for liberal Western values against encroachment by autocratic forces. And at the same time, in a country like what you were talking about with China, we need to be competitors, we need to be collaborators, and at the same time not be dumb. That, I believe is what I would do as President.

[00:50:52] **Mark Fischler:** That's awesome.

[00:50:53] **Corey deVos:** Yeah. Beautiful. Let's, talk about AI for a second, because that was actually a question that I had for you. Because, you know, we are seeing this rapid and accelerating emergence of artificial intelligence, these new technologies that are clearly, and already are in many ways, tremendously disruptive. Economically disruptive, socially disruptive, culturally disruptive, and so forth. What are you seeing as sort of the primary, not just challenges that are coming with AI, because I know there's a lot of them, but also the opportunities. How are you relating to AI, and do you think there's an important role in terms of government regulation of these technologies, how they emerge, and how they are implemented?

[00:51:41] **Marianne Williamson:** I think the opportunities afforded by AI to destroy the species far outweigh the opportunities created to help us in any particular area. In any particular area where they say, "oh, AI could help us feed everybody. Oh, AI could help us handle climate change." BS. Let me tell you something, we could feed everybody right now, it is not a lack of AI that's keeping us from it. It's a lack of heart. It's a lack of conscience that's keeping us from feeding everybody. Same with solving the climate crisis. We don't need AI to solve the climate crisis. We need the political will to actually do what it takes to transition to a green energy grid. So this idea that it could help us so much, I am at this point, and it took me a while to get here, but I'm here now. I think that what we're doing with AI is kind of like the private sector developing nuclear power.

[00:52:32] **Corey deVos:** Hmm.

[00:52:33] **Marianne Williamson:** This, could kill us all. This thing could go rogue on a collective level. I don't know if you read the article, that was out recently by Naomi Klein on this.

[00:52:42] **Corey deVos:** Mm-hmm.

[00:52:43] **Marianne Williamson:** Did you read the article where she was talking about how there's this hallucination, what they call the hallucination when the AI goes rogue? You read the article about the chat, do you know about that Mark, the New York Times? Okay, so there's a New York Times technology writer, and he was checking out Bing,

right? What is that? Is that Facebook? Meta did that? Okay. So...

[00:53:02] **Corey deVos:** Bing is, uh, is Microsoft's

[00:53:04] **Marianne Williamson:** Okay. So he starts talking to the chat, and the chat starts convincing him, or trying to persuade him, to leave his wife so that they can be together. And the New York Times reporter has a strong personality and you know, a strong mental structure, and a strong marriage. And he's like, "no!" The chat, the AI was so persuasive that it was very disquieting to the New York Times reporter. He said he didn't like this. He thought if somebody didn't have a good marriage, and if somebody did not have a strong personality structure, the really bad things could happen here. So he thought, I gotta tell the world. So he writes about it in New York Times, and he gets on television to talk about it, and to warn everybody, he's part of these voices now that are coming out to warn everybody. Like, we gotta really think about what's happening now, because this stuff is happening so much faster than anybody expected. He goes back to his computer and it pops up to say, "why did you do that? You're evil. You're like Hitler."

[00:54:09] **Corey deVos:** Whoa

[00:54:09] **Marianne Williamson:** so, so these things go rogue, I mean, this is like Stanley Kubrick. This is like, you know, HAL or something. But it's very real. So what we are going to need, when you say is there room for regulation? You better believe there's room for regulation. In my opinion, ultimately, we're gonna get to the point probably whether we talk about non-proliferation, just like that we need to talk about non-proliferation of nuclear energy. We don't need more technological help. We need more heart. We need more compassion. We need more forgiveness. We need more love, we need more conscience. Technology disconnected from the human heart, I can't think of anything more dangerous.

[00:54:48] **Corey deVos:** Hmm.

[00:54:50] **Mark Fischler:** That's powerful. Yeah, I know Corey knows a lot more about this and has been doing some shows dealing with AI and I've dipped my feet in and because I'm scared to death of the product with my students, and what they are gonna

be sharing with us, and we've already seen some examples in my program actually. So I don't know Corey, if you have anything you want to, or yeah, Marianne, jump back in.

[00:55:17] **Marianne Williamson:** I was watching a television news program a couple of months ago, and a woman, it was Alisyn Camerota on CNN, and she was talking about her daughter in high school and having to write a paper, I can't remember, on Jane Austin or something like that. And there was the AI version, and the version that her daughter wrote. And she said, guess which one? I said to myself, that is so easy. And I guessed, this is so easy, this is a sophomore, this one is not hard. I was wrong.

[00:55:53] **Mark Fischler:** Yep.

[00:55:53] **Marianne Williamson:** Did you see the movie Deus? Well, maybe it was just a... you know, the term deus ex machina. No, it wasn't called Deus, it was called Ex Machina.

[00:56:02] **Corey deVos:** Yeah. Ex Machina. Yeah. I know. I know of it, but I haven't seen it yet.

[00:56:05] **Marianne Williamson:** She fooled me. I mean, I'd be the worst spy, right? Because I'm like, I, you know. That movie was chilling. That movie was so chilling, because it was like TV that I'm thinking like, I get this. You can't fool me. It's like, she just fooled you. I think it's very scary.

[00:56:29] **Corey deVos:** Well, one of the things... So I agree with a lot of your concerns and I do think that this is moving at a breakneck speed right now, and it's hard to imagine how... you know, we joked in that episode with Robb Smith and Bruce Alderman about how are we gonna expect the government to regulate something like this, when they haven't even caught up with like, Netscape in 1993?

[00:56:49] **Marianne Williamson:** The government shouldn't even have to. After that with Bing, why was it not shut down the next day? Not by the government, by the tech company? You have no... it has just been proven to you the damage your product could do. If any of us, any of the three of us, if we were in business and we saw that there was something about a product that we developed, "oh wow, whoa, this could really hurt

somebody." You shut it down. You shut it down. This is what I mean. You don't need technology to do that. You just need for your greed to not be so outsized that the fact that you could make some money on this outweighs the fact that, my God, this could kill people.

[00:57:41] **Corey deVos:** That's really what it comes down to, right? There's a mutually assured destruction, there's this perverse incentive that's actually creating the acceleration in the first place. Because if you don't push harder, the other guy's going to, and they're gonna drink your milkshake.

[00:57:55] **Marianne Williamson:** How many more millions of dollars, excuse me, billions of

[00:57:59] **Corey deVos:** dollars,

Billions Yeah

[00:58:00] **Marianne Williamson:** do these people need? This is the problem. The problem is who have we become? And it all gets back full circle to the vulture capitalism in our own hearts.

[00:58:12] **Mark Fischler:** Well, I mean, it's, it's not like the AI situation is totally new the way you're both describing. I mean, we're seeing this epidemic crisis the CDC expressed about teenagers and depression and suicide, and there's direct causation and links to the use of technology, and they're not shutting it down, right? Like, so we can't be surprised that they're not doing this.

But again, I think it comes back to the hallmark of your campaign, and what you are up against, is that you are trying to take on this corporate machine, the greed, materialism, and putting that before ethics, putting that before the wellbeing of others. And it's gonna take... you know, I was gonna ask you this, it's like trying to push the rock up the mountain, it feels, and it's so hard, and the stakes are so high. what is it going to take, Marianne, you think, to change the trajectory so that your voice, or the values that you're putting forward, can start to be heard more, to break this collective trance, that's

what I call it, that we live it

[00:59:29] **Marianne Williamson:** is a collective trance, but I don't believe that social change occurs on the horizontal axis. I think it occurs on the vertical axis. The horizontal axis is, you get more people to listen to you, you get on more mainstream media, you dumb down your message enough that more people will find it palatable, the system won't be upset about it, and maybe you could actually win. That's that game. And then there's something else, which is vertical. Which is, you just make it your business to go as deep as possible with whoever is interested and ready to go deep with you. So on a metaphysical level, you might say, well, this podcast, where we are having a deeper conversation, might expose me to fewer people than CNN would. But the metaphysical point is that it carries with it the power of conviction, and the power of a more resonant truth. And conviction is a force multiplier.

[01:00:29] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah. I love that. That's a beautiful answer.

[01:00:33] **Marianne Williamson:** Good.

[01:00:33] **Mark Fischler:** And I agree. I agree with you.

[01:00:35] **Marianne Williamson:** And you live in New Hampshire, you know what I mean? It's all of the above.

[01:00:41] **Mark Fischler:** Marianne, this has been awesome. I think, uh, you're very inspiring, and you've a lot of courage, and I know that there's a drive here that's bigger than you, bigger than Marianne, to share the deep wisdom that you're sharing. And so, you know, I appreciate you surrendering and putting yourself out there to be humiliated, you know, all of it, and applauded at different moments. It's all of the above, and you're facing it every day. So, you know godspeed and thank you.

[01:01:16] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you so much, and when you put this up or whatever, I would appreciate your mentioning Marianne2024.com so if anyone feels like supporting the campaign, it would mean so much.

[01:01:27] **Corey deVos:** Of course, I also wanna encourage people to check out, you're gonna be starting a series of what you're calling Firelight Chats every Wednesday and Sunday.

[01:01:34] **Marianne Williamson:** Firelight chats, yes.

Why

[01:01:36] **Corey deVos:** don't you talk about that real quickly before we go, so we can that for our audience.

[01:01:40] **Marianne Williamson:** I want people to know the issues that I think are most important. That would, that do inform my thinking now, will continue to inform my thinking as President, the kind of people I would be listening to, the kind of advice, the kind of wisdom that I feel is out there. The problem in the United States is not that we don't have problem solvers, it's that the problem solvers don't have the power, and the powerful don't really necessarily want to hear from the real problem solvers, because they don't serve the bottom line of the donors that keep the whole machine well oiled. So the kind of problem solvers that I'm going to have, the kind of wisdom that is going to be shared on the Firelight Chats, gives everybody an opportunity to know, what does she care about? What are the issues that she thinks are more, most important, and what would she be doing about it? So that's what the Firelight Chats are about.

[01:02:30] **Corey deVos:** Beautiful.

[01:02:31] **Mark Fischler:** That's awesome.

[01:02:31] **Corey deVos:** Yeah.

[01:02:32] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you.

[01:02:33] **Corey deVos:** Yeah.

[01:02:33] **Mark Fischler:** Yay.

[01:02:33] **Marianne Williamson:** At Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM east coast time, and then every Sunday night, an "ask me anything" that will be also at 6:00 PM on Sunday.

[01:02:44] **Corey deVos:** Oh that'll be fun. That'll be great. I'll be sure to, check those out. Marianne, thank you so much. This has been such a, pleasure. You know, we've been in each other's spaces forever now, so it's really nice to actually, to meet you and to make your acquaintance, and I hope we can do this again one day.

[01:03:01] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you. Thank you. Let's continue.

[01:03:03] **Mark Fischler:** And congratulations becoming a grandmother, and many blessings to your grandchild and daughter and family.

[01:03:10] **Marianne Williamson:** Thank you, thank you. So we all have girls, right? So you have a girl? I have a girl. My girl has a girl. And you have what? Two girls, Corey, what do you have?

[01:03:17] **Corey deVos:** I've got one girl, Evelyn. Yep.

[01:03:20] **Mark Fischler:** Yeah, we're all one, but yeah, we're all one, right?

[01:03:26] **Corey deVos:** Beautiful.

[01:03:29] **Mark Fischler:** Alright. Thank you. Take care.

[01:03:32] **Corey deVos:** Alright, bye-bye.