

## Copyrighted Material

If you find yourself “out on a limb”  
doing something  
you are no longer fully comfortable with,  
it may be  
that this is the result of your consistency program;

stop what you are doing  
and reconsider all alternatives.

Do not do anything merely for the sake of consistency.

The tendency to be consistent  
is born out of the implicit assumption  
that if you have no preference which way to act  
in a given circumstance,  
the most logical thing to do  
is to act in a way you have acted before.

While this assumption may appear logical,  
its effect is to give power to precedent.

This is undesirable, since:  
It limits experimentation and exploration.  
Much precedent has been established casually.

As we proceed largely by trial and error,  
much precedent represents error  
and as such should certainly not be institutionalized.

Action so as to be consistent with precedent  
reinforces the precedent,  
developing it into a habit or programmatic addiction.  
Programmatic addiction  
“freezes” the entity into stasis  
halting the evolutionary march of becoming.

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The entity should ideally retain all power  
over current behavior;  
none should be yielded to the past or to others.

Acting consistent with precedent  
is a form of hasty closure  
and as such minimizes fresh thought,  
reducing the potential for understanding.

Therefore:

Learn to identify which of your thoughts and actions  
are inspired by your consistency program;

and subject these thoughts and actions  
to objective critical review  
as if the past did not exist,  
and therefore as if no precedent exists.

*Start your life anew with a clear slate each moment.*

Spontaneously think and act  
so as to break established patterns  
of thought and behavior,

unless in a given instance  
there are valid reasons for not doing so.