

Why Now?

Is there an astrological explanation for young people around the world protesting en masse the police murder of George Floyd and institutionalized racism in general? Why now? Why not 10, 15 years ago? Videos of police shooting unarmed black men/women have gone viral in the past without inspiring collective outrage on such an unprecedented scale. Surely the weeks of COVID-19 lockdown have had something to do with it, people's indignation erupting with the energy of a suddenly released tightly coiled spring.

The astrological archetype energizing massive, gut-wrenching social change and revolution is Pluto.

Pluto is a double-sided powerful archetype that symbolizes our desperate clinging to whatever gives us emotional security and, at the same time, represents the evolutionary impulse that forces us, willingly or unwillingly, to let go of the same attachments and transform them to higher expressions of our potential as an individual, nation, planet.

Pluto does its simultaneous hold firm-resist/shake-it-up dance in 12 different ways, depending on which of the 12 astrological signs it is moving through at any given historical period. Perched at the edge of our solar system, Pluto takes 248 years to make one revolution around the Sun and therefore the same amount of time to pass through the 12 signs. Because of its elliptical orbit, Pluto spends different amounts of time in each sign, varying from 14-30 years.

Pluto is the main symbol for generational differences, the so-called "generation gap." If there is a worldview or *weltanschauung* that defines a generation and makes them feel so similar to one another and also so different from the previous generation, and vice-versa, it can be explained to a great extent by the fact that for these two generations, Pluto was in different, contrasting signs (signs adjacent to each other in the zodiac have the least in common). Hence Generation X, Y and Z. Each generation is passionate about, will die for different things, depending on the sign Pluto was in when a particular generation was born.

Generation Z is coming of age now. Supposedly members of Generation Z were born between 1995-2015. But that's not quite true astrologically. If you go by Pluto's transit through a sign, then the generation coming of age now, whatever letter you want to assign them, was born when Pluto was moving through the sign of Sagittarius, from 1995-2008.

What matters most to this generation, what they will die for, is symbolized by the best expression of the sign Sagittarius: spiritual pursuits, travel, adventure, higher learning, research, multi-cultural awareness, intuition, honesty, brotherhood/sisterhood, universal justice and the political activism and determination to make it a reality, whatever is natural, organic rather than man-made, a rejection of artificial or narrow values and structures. And, above all, the freedom to pursue all of these.

Pluto transited into Capricorn in 2009 where it will be until November 2024. Looking ahead, children born during these years will start to come of age in 2030 and will be the prime youthful movers and shakers through 2050, give or take a few years. They will revolutionize the expression of the Capricorn archetype: leadership and authority based on genuine wisdom and higher values rather than ego, all

social hierarchical structures such as governments, private and public organizations, and the military will be re-visioned and transformed, and greater personal and organizational accountability will become the norm. Capricorn is an earth sign, so protecting and healing the environment will become the norm for all nations.

Pluto enters Aquarius in December 2024 and doesn't enter Pisces until January 2044. This 20-year period may well be the true dawning of the Age of Aquarius. Children born during these years will come of age in the mid-to-late 2040's and will be the movers and shakers until around 2070. They will manifest technological advances undreamed of now that will change all facets of life ("They used the Internet back then! And cell phones! How primitive!"). Colonies on Mars, humanitarian values superceding personal gain, solar and new forms of energy totally replace oil and coal, the gap between the haves and have-nots is greatly narrowed, communal living and utopian societies flourish, governments where the common good takes precedence over the influence of special interest groups.

Pluto will pass through Pisces, the last sign of the zodiac, from 2044-2068. Children born during these decades will reach maturity in the late 2060's and will be the transformers until the end of the century. A great spiritual awakening is likely to bring about what many spiritual Masters have been predicting: a New Humanity based on living experience rather than doctrines or beliefs. Our essential Oneness with all life will be the basis for solving personal and social problems. New art forms will flourish. Psychic ability will be commonplace.

Aries is the sign of new beginnings. When Pluto enters Aries in 2068 it will signify the end of a 248 year growth cycle for humanity that began when Pluto was last in Aries: 1822-1853. The seeds of the modern world—scientifically, technologically, socially, politically, artistically, and all the glory and suffering that ensued as a result—were planted during those 30 years. A new world order will be established as Pluto begins its new cycle around the zodiac.