MONEY as the root of all evil.

The rash of hijackings aimed at extorting ransom payments dramatizes the vulnerability of modern society to grievous interference by highwaymen, muggers and thieves. A variety of technological antidotes has been recommended. Some of these already take account of certain properties of MONEY as a root problem. Taking cash out of the transactions overseen by the bus and cab driver has, I believe, been an effective preventive of what was once a serious form of personal crime. The 'cashless society' (credit cards etc) is doubtless another useful step in minimizing opportunity for gainful crime, but cash, even in amounts of $100,000 or even $500,000 is still an attractive incentive.

Is there a legitimate need for a completely negotiable, untraceable medium of exchange beyond petty coinage? If not, we should consider whether we do not already have the technology to be able to trace a sufficiently large sample of currency to be an effective deterrent to a variety of crimes. I will not attempt to detail the system; 

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