

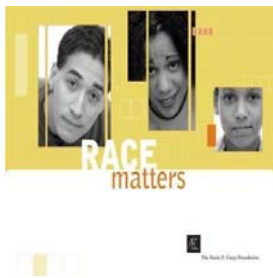
LUNA JIMÉNEZ SEMINARS & ASSOCIATES

Personal Transformation
Social Justice
 Organizational Change

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HOT LINKS



Ever wished you had a more effective way to talk about “race” in various professional and personal settings? If so, be sure to explore the Race Matters online toolkit where you’ll find ready-made resources on “race” and its impact on education, wellness, media, and civic participation. A part of the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s “Knowledge Center,” the toolkit provides free, downloadable documents and power point presentations complete with talking points and discussion questions. The materials cover a wide range of topics including “System Reform Strategies” and an “Organizational Self Assessment.” There is also a series entitled “Unequal Opportunities” which highlights issues such as school readiness, health and wellness, and family and community economic success. This is an invaluable resource and site for anyone working to eradicate racial disparities.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Strength to Love

By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January is the perfect month to highlight *The Strength to Love*, a collection of sermons written by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Initially hesitant to publish this work because he felt sermons were created for the ear and not the eye, Dr. King created a powerfully moving book that exemplifies his philosophy of non-violence. With titles such as “Love in Action,” “A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart,” and “Loving Your Enemies,” these sermons clearly demonstrate Dr. King’s commitment to the transformative power of love. It brings to mind a line from Elizabeth Alexander’s inaugural poem, “Praise Song for the Day,” in which she writes, “what if love is the mightiest word of all?”

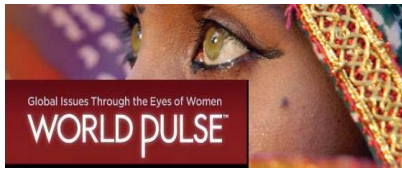
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Strength to Love



With each sermon, Dr. King inspires his readers to examine with a ‘toughmind’ the ways in which our individual and collective actions can help to root out what he terms “the triple evils of racism, war, and poverty.” In the first piece, “A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart,” Dr. King describes his idea of toughmindedness vs. softmindedness. He points to softmindedness, the state of accepting conclusions without examining the facts, as a predisposing factor to racism as it makes people susceptible to false information about certain racial and ethnic groups. This misinformation serves as a doorway to policies that discriminate based on incorrect assumptions about a group’s abilities, customs, or morality. In contrast, being toughminded enables people to carefully investigate information and base their conclusions on accurate knowledge.

In the sermon “Transformed Nonconformist” Dr. King eloquently describes the attributes and characteristics of effective social change agents. Rather than become rigid and impatient, Dr. King encourages us to “to fight vigorously the evils of the world in a humble and loving spirit.” He goes on to discuss the fortitude that is necessary when leading the charge for social transformation. He writes, “the transformed nonconformist recognizes that social change will not come overnight, yet he works as though it is an imminent possibility.” With this sentence, Dr. King sends an inspirational message that reminds us that hope is what fuels us to continue working towards what we want to change in our world.

The Strength to Love is a life-changing book and a trustworthy guide for anyone interested in the areas of personal, political, and community transformation. At LJS we continue to be inspired by Dr. King’s words, four decades after they were written.



Pulse Wire is an online community where women from around the world can come together to enact social change. The site offers a variety of avenues for women to connect with others committed to transforming their communities. "Voices Rising" is a forum where women can share their personal stories about the events that both influence who they are and inspire what they do. Be sure to check out the "Resource Exchange" and "Sharing Solutions" sections to learn about the innovative ways in which women are actively shaping our world. Pulse Wire is part of World Pulse, a media enterprise that reports on global events through the eyes of women and produces World Pulse Magazine. This site, which interacts with mobile phone technology, is breaking down barriers to communication and giving women around the globe, from New York City to small villages in Africa, a unique way to connect and collaborate.

In The News



The Journey Inward to Eliminate Oppression

Diversity practitioners and social change agents often focus their work on understanding others as a vehicle to create inclusion and promote justice. When our attention begins by looking out rather than in, we may undermine our own effectiveness and power.

On this episode of Diversity Matters®, Nanci joins co-hosts Dr. Richard Friend and Judy Seidenstein to discuss her unique approach of helping people give voice to the stories of their own lives in order to change the world and eliminate oppression. We examine the importance of understanding and addressing internalized oppression, the role of "adultism" as the root of all other forms of oppression, and the need to have an internal home base before we can reach out across our differences as true partners.

This episode is available now to listen on demand at Diversity Matters®.

Please tune in!

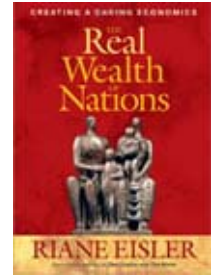
IAF Canada

This book is the perfect companion as we enter into a new age; may we all be energized and hopeful for the changes we will enact.

The Real Wealth of Nations: Creating a Caring Economics

By Riane Eisler

In *The Real Wealth of Nations: Creating a Caring Economics*, renowned social scientist Riane Eisler offers a well-timed plan to overhaul our economic system. This model grew out of her many years of searching for answers to the question, "why, when we humans have such a great capacity for caring, consciousness, and creativity, has our world seen so much cruelty, insensitivity, and destruction?" She advocates for a framework that goes far beyond what we've always understood to be true or possible in terms of economics. Neo-classical economic theory is heavily influenced by modern day capitalism's focus on the assessment and prediction of how markets will succeed or fail. Eisler points out that this theory and its corresponding models consistently ignore the latent economic potential of human-centered, household activities of care.



The foundation of a "Caring Economics" goes beyond the constraining categorizations of capitalist, socialist, or anarchist, offering instead a broad spectrum framework that encourages us to identify what we value the most in our lives and use that discovery as the lens through which we assess what is most valuable in the world. Eisler puts forth a new economic map that includes the household, unpaid community and natural sectors. She argues that by including the contributions of caregiving – both for humans and the natural environment - we can move towards a partnership and mutual respect paradigm. By doing so, our economic system will better represent what each member of society can contribute.

Using the example of childcare, Eisler highlights how our current economic model engenders our unquestioning acceptance of the gap between paying an electrician \$70-\$100/hour to fix our wiring and paying our childcare workers and teachers significantly less. She argues that we do this because we're raised to believe that the work of maintaining our built environment is inherently more valuable than work related to caregiving. She goes on to advocate for reframing our view of the household from a unit of consumption to one of production. As Eisler writes, "this book is for everyone who wants ... to build a new economic system that promotes creativity and generosity rather than greed and destructiveness." This well-written collection of ideas and strategies offers fresh thinking to address the current financial transition and new ways to value contributions of caregivers around the world.

April 20th & 21st 2009

"You Don't Know What You Don't Know:
The Facilitator's Path to Authentic
Cross-Cultural Practice"

Facilitated by
Nanci Luna Jimenez, CPF©,
Barbara J. MacKay, CPF©
and Shoshanna Cogan

2 Day International Association of
Facilitators North American Conference
Training Workshop

Register [HERE](#) Or contact [Kati](#) for more
information.

There's a special opportunity on April
20th and 21st to join Nanci, Barb
MacKay, and Shoshanna Cogan as
they co-facilitate a two-day
Pre-conference Training for the
International Association of Facilitators
North American Conference in
Vancouver, BC. The conference is April
22nd & 23rd and the theme is "Explore
Diversity." Nanci will also be presenting
a concurrent session during the
conference.

www.lunajimenezseminars.com