

Dignilogue Questions from Linda Hartling to Evelin Lindner

2016 Workshop on Transforming Humiliation and Violent Conflict, Columbia University, New York City,
December 8-9, 2016.

The theme of our workshop is “The Globalization of Dignity,” yet developments in the US and around the world exposed the presence of much pain and humiliation among very many people. It seems like we are a long, long way from the Globalization of Dignity.

What are your reflections on where we are now and what we can do to keep moving in the direction of dignity?

You are about to publish your newest book, *Honor, Humiliation, and Terror: Humiliation and Terror - Defusing and Preventing an Explosive Mixture, Volume I*. Some people may think that your book is specifically about terrorism, but it is about all forms of terror that perpetuate cycles of humiliation. People would love to hear more about this important book.

In your book you describe the “Art of Domination” which seems relevant to many developments around the world, including the recent political situation in the U.S. This is the ultimate refinement of what you call the *art of humiliation*, it results in subordinates participating in voluntary self-humiliation.

To transform domination, it seems that conflict is necessary and inevitable. But most of what we see in the form of conflict is what Jean Baker Miller calls *bad* conflict, conflict as aggression, conflict in the extreme. How do we discern necessary conflicts that lead to change for the better from conflicts that serve as distractions?

The theme of our conference in Dubrovnik was “Cities at Risk: From Humiliation to Dignity.” We would love to hear your reflections on the highlights of this conference.

How do we keep our courage up for the days ahead?