

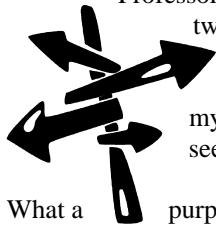
Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future

New Years Greetings: 2006

From Donald C. Klein

I began this letter a week before presenting a talk at Columbia Teachers College on “Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future” for the Workshop on Humiliation and Violent Conflict convened by the global network on Human Dignity and Humiliation. I’m a board member and Chair of Educational Programs of this global association of academics and practitioners from many different countries who are dedicated to eliminating the use of humiliating policies and practices in international affairs. Want to know more? Go to www.humiliationstudies.org.

For me, it’s been a year of transition: looking to the past and to the future. On June 30th I retired and became Professor Emeritus from The Union Institute and University’s core faculty where I’d been involved for twenty-seven years in the avant garde, non-campus, learner-centered doctoral program for working adults. I gave my final Seminar (on Appreciative Psychology) in June in Montpelier and flew to Phoenix for my last learner’s graduation meeting in July. Then I sat back and waited to see what might emerge as a focus for my remaining years.



What a purpose emerged!!! Nothing more nor less than working for a future of peace in which people no longer feel the need to avenge or protect themselves through terrorism, inter-communal conflict, and war. One way is through the global Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies network. Another way is to work with Louise Diamond, founder of the Peace Company in her Peace Building Workshops. Want to know more about the Peace Company and Louise’s *Peace Book*? Check: www.thepeacecompany.com.



Yet another way is to encourage people to shift from what I call the Psychology of Projection to a Psychology of Appreciation. The Psychology of Projection is most everyone’s way of being in the world. It involves two things: (1) living in your own self-created world of thought; (2) taking seriously the character you think of as your “self.” If, however, you embrace the Psychology of Appreciation, you’ll experience every moment of your life in a state of awe and wonderment, feeling at one with the universe. I call it a state of Appreciative Being. The good news is you were born fully equipped to feel that state. Appreciative Being is the subject of my book *New Vision, New Reality*, published by Hazelden Publishers five years ago. Several people who read the book report that it transformed their lives in a positive way. I now have the copyright back from Hazelden and want to make the book available to a great many people.

Here’s where I can use your help. My goal is to make the book available to lots of people. So I’m selling it for only \$9.00 including postage. You can help by, first of all, reading the book yourself, if you haven’t already done so. Then, if you think it’s worthwhile, send it as gifts and encourage as many people as you can to read it. It can be purchased from my Sea Otter Press, 11006 Wood Elves Way, Columbia, MD 21044.

I’ll also continue to spread the word about the Psychology of Appreciation by giving presentations, workshops, and seminars to as many people as I can.

Here’s another way you can help. Perhaps you can arrange a program that you or a group to which you belong would sponsor. Or you can let others know that I’m available. No fee is necessary. Reimbursement for expenses would be a great help. Thanks in advance..

