

Pacific Central District
January 8, 1982 *Longview*
Lucile Schuck-Change Agent
Without Portfolio.

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REACHING FOR A NEW CONSCIOUSNESS

I HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO BEING HERE TODAY NOT ONLY BECAUSE I THINK OF CALIFORNIA AS THE LAND OF THE ETERNAL REDWOODS, TOWERING SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS, GORGEOUS LAND SCAPES AND SEASCAPES AND WARMTH-
WARMTH, BUT ALSO ~~BE~~ BELIEVE IT OR NOT, BECAUSE I THINK OF CALIFORNIA AS EARTHQUAKE COUNTRY. REST ASSURED, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DWELLING ON THE FAULTS / OF YOUR STATE ALTHOUGH I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE MANY-ONE, EVEN, VERY NEARBY. ^{the}-(HAYWARD) ~~house~~.

EARTHQUAKES, THE GEOLOGICAL SHIFTS THAT ARE A FACT OF LIFE FOR YOU, MAY HAVE UNACKNOWLEDGED BENEFITS FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO LIVE DANGEROUSLY BY CHOICE. ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONSTANT POSSIBILITY OF SHIFTING TERRAIN MAY WELL ESTABLISH A MIND SET-AN OPENNESS-THAT EMBRACES UNCERTAINTY AND CHANGE. SENSING THAT THE GROUND WHERE YOU STAND MAY SHIFT AT ANY TIME MUST MAKE IT EASIER TO ACCEPT , TO COMPREHEND, THE FACT THAT A SHIFT OR A CHANGE AT THE BASIC LEVEL OF HOW WE PERCEIVE, ^{how we} CONCEPTUALIZE, IS ~~IS~~ BEARING DOWN UPON US: LIVING WITH THE THREAT OF EARTHQUAKES ^{at least possible} ACCOUNTS, THEN, ^{I presume, and it is} FOR YOUR OPENNESS TO CHANGE, YOUR WILLINGNESS TO EMBRACE THE NEW AGE.

TRADITIONALISTS BACK EAST DO NOT ALWAYS SEE THIS EMBRACING OF CHANGE AS SUCH A GREAT VIRTUE, BUT I DO. I THINK OF MYSELF AS A FUTURIST AND THAT NAME "LONGVIEW" WHICH YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED ABOUT INCLUDES THAT. "LONGVIEW" CAME FROM MY SUBCONSCIOUS AND ATTACHED ITSELF TO ME NEARLY FOUR YEARS AGO AND I AM ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO OWN IT. AFTER ALL OF THESE YEARS OF IGNORING AND SQUELCHING MY INNER VOICE IT IS A SCARY TURN-AROUND TO CLAIM THE POWER OF NAMING FOR THE

EMPOWERING ACT THAT IT IS. OWNING "LONGVIEW" IS A NAMING OF MY BEING AND MY BECOMING-ENCOMPASSING MORE THAN MY PAST; INCLUDING ALSO MY PERCEPTIONS OF MY SELF AS A FUTURIST.

AS A FUTURIST I BELIEVE WITH THOSE WHO CLAIM THAT A DEEP UNDERLYING SHIFT IN THE ENTIRE CULTURE IS TAKING PLACE. THE MORE I AM OPEN TO SUCH A CHANGE, THE MORE I LOOK FOR EVIDENCE OF IT, THE MORE PEOPLE I FIND WHO ARE WRITING ABOUT IT. THE FOLLOWING QUOTATION IS TAKEN FROM THE JACKET TO MARILYN FERGUSONS "THE AQUARIAN CONSPIRACY- PERSONAL AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE 1980'S": "A GREAT SHUDDERING, IRREVOCABLE SHIFT IS OVERTAKING US. IT IS NOT A NEW POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, OR ECONOMIC SYSTEM. IT IS A NEW MIND-A TURNABOUT IN CONSCIOUSNESS IN CRITICAL NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS, A NETWORK POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BRING ABOUT RADICAL CHANGE IN OUR CULTURE".

THIS CONCERN FOR CHANGING MYTHS OF REALITY IS NOT EXACTLY NEW TO ME. OVER TWO DECADES AGO I WAS A MEMBER OF AN EXPLORATIVE EDUCATIONAL PROJECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. TWENTY WOMEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 27 AND 72 WERE ENROLLED IN WHAT WE CALLED OUR RETREAD PROGRAM, I WAS NURTURED IN AND STIMULATED BY THAT PROGRAM OVER A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS BUT A QUESTION BY ONE OF THE PROFESSORS HAS STAYED WITH ME. FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN HISTORY THAT HAVE SHAKEN MAN'S SENSE OF HIMSELF HE ASKED, "WHAT IS MAN GIVING UP NOW?" I MEAN TO SAY "MAN". MAN WAS FOR US, THEN, LESS THAN TWENTY YEARS AGO, THE MODEL HUMAN. IT WAS HIS CULTURE THAT WE STUDIED AND HIS RECORD OF THAT CULTURE PROVIDED THE MATERIALS WE STUDIED-THE INDOCTRINATION WE RECEIVED.

FOR A DECADE I KEPT ASKING MYSELF: "WHAT ARE WE GIVING UP NOW?" THE REVIEW HAD SHOWN HOW RAPIDLY CHANGE WAS COMING. FOR HOW LONG NO ONE KNOWS, MAN'S WORLD -THE EARTH-WAS FOR HIM, FLAT AND THE

himself
Man, the center of the Cosmos
all of that 3 began to change
THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE. IN THE LATE 15TH CENTURY, COLUMBUS DID NOT SAIL OFF THE EDGE OF THE EARTH NOR DID HE REACH THE EAST BY SAILING WEST BUT ONLY BECAUSE ~~THERE WAS~~ *namely, the Americas was* A SLIGHT BARRIER IN THE WAY. IN THE EARLY 16TH CENTURY COPERNICAN ASTRONOMY CHANGED MAN'S COSMOCENTRIC VISION. MAN'S HOME-HABITAT-WAS *Man's learning* MERELY ONE OF SEVERAL PLANETS THAT CIRCLED ONE OF AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF SUNS. OF COURSE THAT KIND OF NEWS DIDN'T SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE AND THE HUMAN ADJUSTMENT *to that awareness* IS STILL IN PROCESS.

BUT MAN HAD SOMETHING TO FALL BACK ON. HE HAD ALREADY MYTHED HIMSELF INTO HAVING BEEN DIVINELY CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE AND AT THE TOP OF A HIERARCHICAL ~~LADDER~~ *ladder* WITH ALL OTHER LIFE FORMS BELOW. BUT THAT SECURITY WAS PUT INTO DOUBT WITH THE PUBLISHING, IN 1859, OF DARWIN'S "ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY NATURAL SELECTION". *and more recently the New Testament has questioned the concept of hierarchy at its most vulnerable point* HAVE WE INTEGRATED THE CONCEPT OF EVOLUTION? NO WAY! EVEN NOW CREATIONISM IS BATTLING FOR THE MINDS OF OUR YOUTH. BUT FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS CONTROVERSY MAN TOOK SOLACE IN THE FACT THAT HE KNEW MORE ABOUT HIMSELF THAN DID ANYONE ELSE.

WE CAN SEE HOW THE TEMPO OF CHANGING PERCEPTIONS WAS SPEEDING UP-- *long held* HOW MAN'S PUSH FOR NEW INSIGHTS WAS SHREDDING HIS WORLD VIEW. FREUD AND OTHER PSYCHOLOGISTS WERE CAUSING MAN TO QUESTION HIS OWN SELF KNOWLEDGE AND ANTHROPOLOGY WAS MAKING MAN'S CLAIM ON ETHNIC *white* SUPERIORITY A QUESTIONABLE VISION. *Concept*

THE NEW PHYSICS, WHICH AS FRITJOF CAPRA NOW SAYS "SHOWS THAT WE ARE TRYING TO APPLY THE CONCEPTS OF AN OUTDATED WORLD VIEW-THE MECHANISTIC WORLD VIEW OF CARTESIAN-NEWTONIAN SCIENCE TO A REALITY THAT CAN NO LONGER BE UNDERSTOOD IN TERMS OF THESE CONCEPTS" WAS STRUGGLING TO UNDERSTAND ITSELF BUT THOSE OF US IN THE EDUCATION *Retread*

Program

PROJECT COULD NOT COMPREHEND THAT.

WE CONSIDERED EACH OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS THAT HAD SHAKEN MAN'S SENSE OF HIMSELF WITHOUT SEEING THE OVER-ALL PICTURE. WE COULD NOT THEN SEE THAT, SINCE THE LATE 15TH CENTURY, MAN, THE MALE, ^{and more recently, woman} HAS BEEN DISMANTLING ^{male} THE MYTH OF PATRIARCHY-THE ONLY THOUGHT PATTERN WE HAVE HAD DURING RECORDED HISTORY. PIECE BY PIECE HE HAS BEEN STRIPPING AWAY THE DARK SHROUD OF THE MYTH OF REALITY INTO WHICH WE ARE ACCULTURATED FROM BIRTH AND LAYING BARE THE UNDERLYING ASSUMPTION OF HIERARCHY AND DOMINATION. IT IS THIS ASSUMPTION THAT HAS BROUGHT US TO THE BRINK OF A MAN-MADE ARMEGEDDON.

AND WITH EVER INCREASING TEMPO WE CONTINUE TO DISMANTLE PATRIARCHY AND SHOW HOW COMPLETELY MAN HAS ERRONEOUSLY MYTHED HIS PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE. THE FLIGHT TO THE MOON AND PICTURES OF THAT TINY EARTH, OUR ONLY HOME, HAS FORCED US INTO GLOBAL THINK AND A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF INTERRELATIONSHIPS AND INTERDEPENDENCE. THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RELATION TO THE TOTALITY OF LIFE EXPANDS OUR SPIRITUALITY. THE SHORTAGE OF FOSSIL FUELS HAS PUSHED US TOWARD THE SOLAR AGE.

THE LIST GOES ON AS YOU CAN SUGGEST FROM YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE. SUCH RAPID CHANGE HAS ^{Brought} ~~THROWN~~ US INTO A TIME OF CRISIS. WE ARE IN A CRISIS OF PERCEPTION AS CAPRA STRESSES IN "THE TURNING POINT".

ONE OF THE THEMES OF CHANGE THAT I NEGLECTED TO MENTION WAS "THE DEATH OF GOD" WHICH SOME ONE POINTED OUT WAS WESTERN MAN'S CONFESSION AND DENOTES MAN'S ALIENATION FROM FROM HIS OWN CONCEPTUALIZING AND HIS OWN AUTHENTICITY.

I INTENTIONALLY SAVED FOR THE LAST THE GREATEST FORCE OF OUR TIME FOR CHANGING OUR PERCEPTIONS. THE NEW FEMINISM HAS NOT ONLY CHALLENGED MAN'S ANDROCENTRIC VIEW OF HIMSELF, ^{is the New Feminism} ~~THAT HE IS THE MODEL~~ ^{BUT} THROUGH THE FEMINIST

ANALYSIS OF PATRIARCHY AND THE UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS ON WHICH ALL DISCIPLINES OF LEARNING ARE BASED FEMINISM IS PLAYING A CREATIVE ROLE IN THE WHOLE PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION. THE FEMINIST MOVEMENT IS NOT ONLY CREATING A NEW SELF-IMAGE FOR WOMEN BUT IT ^{IS} ALSO CREATING NEW MODES OF THINKING AND A NEW SYSTEM OF VALUES. CAPRA SAYS THAT "...FEMINIST SPIRITUALITY WILL HAVE A PROFOUND INFLUENCE NOT ONLY ON RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY BUT ALSO ON OUR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIFE" AND HE ADDS, " BECAUSE FEMINISM IS A MAJOR FORCE IN OUR CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION, ESPECIALLY IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WILL PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE COALESCENCE OF VARIOUS SOCIAL MOVEMENTS.

ONCE WE TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT WE ARE TRANSFORMING ^{our understanding}

^{of} THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE WE SUDDENLY SEE AN ENDLESS NUMBER OF EXAMPLES OF FUTURE ORIENTED EXPLORATIONS IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE AND IN ALL DISCIPLINES OF KNOWLEDGE. I'LL NAME A VERY FEW BUT AN EQUAL NUMBER ^{AT} WILL COME TO YOUR MIND FOR CALIFORNIANS HAVE BEEN/NEW AGE EXPLORATIONS FOR SO LONG IT NOW SEEMS LIKE PANNING LONG USED STREAMS ^{of thought}

IN THE AREA OF HEALTH

NATURAL FOODS, HOLISTIC HEALTH, SELF-HEALING

IN THE AREA OF THE LARGER SPIRITUALITY

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION, EASTERN MYSTICISM

IN THE AREA OF EMPOWERMENT

NETWORKING, ACCOMPANYING RATHER THAN SERVING
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY IN PLACE OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY
EXAMPLE---PEACE MOVEMENTS

IN THE AREA OF LEARNING

NEW SYSTEMS APPROACH TO KNOWLEDGE. (ALL IS RELATED--
NOT ISOLATED STREAMS OF THOUGHT)

IN ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

CITIZENS MOVEMENTS PIONEERED BY RALPH NADER

IN ECONOMICS

CONSUMER MOVEMENTS, COOPERATIVES, ECOLOGICALLY HARMONIOUS
LIFE STYLES

The sum of all of these explorations
Point to a revolution in consciousness ^{to}
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IN THE REALM OF RELIGION THERE APPEARS TO BE A SHIFT AWAY FROM A RELIGION MEDIATED BY AUTHORITIES TO ONE OF DIRECT SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE. ^[A SHIFT FROM BELIEF TO KNOWING.] THERE IS A GROWING SENSE THAT WHATEVER ANSWERS THERE ARE TO OUR QUEST FOR MEANING MUST COME FROM WITHIN OURSELVES.

THIS NEW CONSCIOUSNESS PROMISES TO RELEASE A NEW SPIRITUAL FORCE TRANSCENDING RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BOUNDARIES, DRAWING US INTO A SENSE OF ONENESS--ONENESS, NOT ONLY WITH THE HUMAN COMMUNITY GLOBALLY BUT ONENESS WITH THE TOTALITY OF LIFE. OUR ENVIRONMENT LIVES. - Blocks

WE ARE MOVING INTO A CULTURAL AWAKENING, A NEW BEGINNING, A NEW ^{-and feminism offers us a great hope} GENESIS. ROBIN MORGAN IN THE ANATOMY OF FREEDOM SAYS: FEMINISM IS, AT THIS MOMENT AND ON THIS PLANET, THE DNA/RNA CALL FOR SURVIVAL AND FOR THE NEXT STEP IN EVOLUTION-AND EVEN BEYOND THAT, FEMINISM IS, IN ITS METAPHYSICAL AND META FEMINIST DYNAMIC, THE HELIX OF HOPE THAT WE HUMANS HAVE FOR COMMUNICATION WITH WHATEVER LIES BEFORE US IN THE VAST WITTY MYSTERY OF THE UNIVERSE."

IT IS IN THIS SETTING-THE RELENGUISHMENT OF TRADITIONAL CONCEPTUAL-IZING, WHICH WE CALL PATRIARCHY, AND REACHING FOR A NEW WORLD VISION. A NEW CONSCIOUSNESS. ^{with feminism a major participant} - THAT WE TURN TO THE THEME FOR OUR TIME TOGETHER AT THIS DISTRICT MEETING.

THE FUTURE BY RESOLUTION.

^{In} ~~WE ARE RELINQUISHING THE TRADITIONAL WORLD VIEW-THE TRADITIONAL WAY OF~~
~~CONCEPTUALIZING-WHERE~~ ^{THE} UNDERLYING ASSUMPTION HOLDS THAT THERE IS A HIERARCHY IN RELATIONSHIPS , THAT MAN IS UP AND ALL ELSE IS BELOW. I ^{ABOVE ALL} USE MY BLOCKS TO REPRESENT THIS. GOD ON HIGH - WELL, FOR HUMANISTS, ^{is} GOD ALONGSIDE MAN-WITH WOMEN, CHILDREN, ANIMALS , PLANTS AND THE EARTH

ON THE LADDER BELOW.

IT IS IN THIS SETTING WITH ALL THE SYMPTOMS OF THE CURRENT CRISIS OF CHANGE SURROUNDING US THAT WE CONSIDER THE ISSUE OF THE DAY-- SYMPTOMS SUCH AS:

THE THREAT OF TOTAL DESTRUCTION IN A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST

MASSIVE STARVATION GLOBALLY

A MALFUNCTIONING ECONOMIC SYSTEM

ENERGY SHORTAGES

POLLUTION

THREATENED AND DISSAPPEARING SPECIES

HUMAN DESTRUCTION OF OUR ECOSYSTEM

MANY MORE THAT YOU CAN NAME ~~AND ABOUT WHICH YOU MAY BE MAKING~~

Most UUA Resolutions
~~RESOLUTIONS HERE TODAY~~ *are about treating the symptoms*
of our cultural disease
Few are about getting to the root cause.

THE FUTURE BY RESOLUTION

IF THAT WERE PUT TO ME AS A QUESTION---CAN WE MOVE THE DENOMINATION TOWARD THE FUTURE BY RESOLUTION? MY FIRST IMPULSE WOULD BE TO SAY LOUDLY AND CLEARLY NO!!

THERE WAS A TIME. NOT TOO LONG AGO WHEN I THOUGHT THE REVERSE AND MY ANSWER WOULD HAVE BEEN AN EMPHATIC , YES!! *- That was when*
Exactly I was a reformist, when I had hope
IT MAY HAVE BEEN SIX YEARS AGO TODAY THAT IT OCCURRED TO ME, WHILE SHOVELLING SNOW, THAT MAYBE-JUST MAYBE- WE COULD CHANGE THE UNDERLYING BASIC ASSUMP-
push for
TION ON WHICH OUR SEXIST TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS MYTH IS BASED. *! then Resolution* ASSUMPTION
that *a* *"*
THAT THE REAL HUMAN BEINGS ARE MALES AND WOMEN ARE THE OTHER AND THE
Biased
RESULT THAT THIS FIRST RELATIONSHIP ON THE HIERARCHICAL LADDER , WHICH
WE CALL SEXISM IS BASIC TO ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF DOMINATION.

WE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS, I REASONED, WOULD GLADLY WORK TO CHANGE THAT ASSUMPTION, ~~I REASONED~~, FOR WE ARE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF ~~SOC~~ SOCIETAL CHANGE AND, NOW THAT FEMINISM HAD POINTED OUT THE SITUATION, ALL THAT WAS ~~NEEDED~~ ^{UUA} IN THE ~~DENOMINATION~~ ^{was a nudge} WAS A REMINDER, A CHALLENGE. AND NOW WE COME TO THE BIG LEAP- MAYBE THE ~~RESOLUTION~~ ^{first BUSINESS, I thought} WAS AN ENTRY FOR A LAY VOICE THAT WAS INTERESTED IN CHANGING THE WAY WE PERCEIVED RELATIONSHIPS. ^{The}

Second big leap - The Denomination - the G.A. - let it happen.

I CAN HEAR YOU SAYING UNDER YOUR BREATH---WHAT INNOCENCE! ^{How Naive!} ~~WHAT NAIVETY~~

NONETHE LESS, I PUT THE SHOVEL ~~IN~~ ^{Write out} THE SNOW BANK AND WENT INTO THE HOUSE TO ~~PUT DOWN~~ ^{The many} THE FIRST DRAFT (OF ~~HUNDREDS~~ ^{often in consultation} THAT WERE TO FOLLOW) OF WHAT IS NOW KNOWN AS "THE WOMEN AND RELIGION" RESOLUTION WHICH WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN CORNELL THE FOLLOWING SUMMER.

IN THE SEVEN YEARS SINCE CORNELL I HAVE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS

one, and especially
WHEN A LAY PERSON ~~TRY~~ ^{ies} TO EFFECT IDEOLOGICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE THROUGH THE RESOLUTION PROCESS. IT IS LIKE TRYING TO PRY A BOULDER UP AN INCLINE WITH A TOOTH PICK. THE TOOL IS SIMPLY TOO FRAIL.

BUT JUST IN CASE ANYONE ONE IS INTERESTED IN TRYING TO DO THE SAME, HERE ~~ARE~~ ^{is A} SOME HI NT~~S~~ ^{ies} THAT APPL~~X~~ ^{ies} TO ALL RESOLUTION WRITING.

2. THERE ARE THREE VERY IMPORTANT STEPS THAT RESOLUTIONS ENCOUNTER. THERE ARE MORE BUT THE QNES I PARTICULARLY EMPHASISE COME IN THIS ORDER

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

IF YOUR RESOLUTION FINDS ITS WAY THROUGH THE OBSTACLES ~~ALONG THE WAY~~ AND IS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY YOU LOSE ALL CONTROL. YOU HAVE, IN EFFECT,, GIVEN YOUR GIFT TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UUA. FROM THEN ON THEY ARE IN CONTROL.

We see and imagine

I REMIND YOU THAT I SPEAK FROM THE LAY PERSON PERSPECTIVE, INDEED FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE WOMAN IN THE PEW-THE WEAKEST SPOT IN THE DENOMINATIONAL HIERARCHY. THAT IS WHY I EMPHASIZE NOT ONLY THAT I AM AN OUTSIDER BY INTENTION-THAT IS OUTSIDE THE DENOMINATIONAL LEADERSHIP, BUT ALSO THAT I SEE MYSELF AS A CHANGE AGENT WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. ~~AND~~ ^{- Without Permission} ONE OF THE LESSONS ^I ~~WE~~ ^I ~~RE~~ LEARNED IS THAT REALITY IS STAND-POINT DETERMINED ^{WHERE YOU STAND AFFECTS WHAT YOU} AND THAT ~~WE INFLUENCE THAT REALITY IN THE PROCESS OF LOOKING AT IT.~~ ^{SEE.}

ELIZABETH JANEWAY IN HER BOOK TITLED "POWERS OF THE WEAK" HELPS ~~THOSE~~ ^{See power relationships} ~~OF US ON THE OUTSIDE~~ ^{SEE OUR REALITY} IN A NEW LIGHT. HER PRIME SUBJECTS AMONG THE WEAK ARE WOMEN BUT MINORITIES AND OTHER GROUPS QUALIFY IN PARTICULAR INSTANCES. SHE SAYS: "THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WHAT THE WEAK ARE TOOLD IS "REALLY THERE" HAS BEEN FILTERED THROUGH THE HEADS OF THOSE WHO SEE THEIR ROLE AS BEING IN CHARGE: IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC LIFE, IN CHARGE OF MORALITY, AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, IN CHARGE OF DECIDING WHAT'S IMPORTANT."

Omit THIS APPLIES TO THE WAY RESOLUTIONS ARE IMPLEMENTED. WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE LARGE UPRIGHT FILING CASES AND ALSO THE ROUND KIND THAT SIT ON THE FLOOR AND IN THE CASE OF MANY RESOLUTIONS WE CAN NEVER BE SURE WHICH FILE WAS THEIR FORTUNE.

IF YOUR RESOLUTION HAS ENOUGH POPULAR APPEAL THOSE IN CHARGE MAY UNDERTAKE IT'S IMPLEMENTATION BUT KEEP IN MIND THAT ~~THOSE IN POWER~~ ^{THEY} ARE IN A POSITION TO TELL YOU, AND OF COURSE ALL THE REST OF US, WHAT YOUR RESOLUTION IS ABOUT-FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE OF COURSE. BE SURE TO KEEP IN MIND THAT THERE IS NOTHING INDESCREET OR INTENTIONAL ABOUT ALL OF THIS. IT IS SIMPLY THE WAY OUR SYSTEM OF POWER WORKS AND ONE CAN SEE IT IN ALL ORGANIZATIONS ONCE ONE BECOMES AWARE OF IT. SO YOUR RESOLUTION MAY SAIL OFF IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION OF WHAT YOU HAD INTENDED.

OR THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE MAY BE SUBSUMED OR CREDITED TO OTHERS.
WE HAVE LEARNED THAT HISTORICALLY WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN ERASED
AND AS A RESULT HISTORY IS ACTUALLY THAT--^{HIS}~~HER~~S STORY. ^{HIS STORY.} WOMEN CONTINUE TO
BE ERASED AND THEIR WORK TAKEN OVER AND ^{in the UUA}~~OWNED~~ BY OTHERS. ~~NOW~~ I WANT TO
SIGHT AN INSTANCE WHEN , IN THE ERASURE OF WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION,
THE ACTION OF FOUR DISTRICTS INCLUDING THE PACIFIC CENTRAL DISTRICT
WAS ALSO ERADICATED. I REFER TO AN ARTICLE IN THE NOVEMBER 15TH U.U.

^{UNDER THE HEADING}
WORLD ^{US EXPLORE THE FRONTIERS OF GROWTH"} . THERE WERE THREE
^{under that heading}
ARTICLES, ONE TITLED " DENOMINATION ASKED TO RESTATE ITS BASIC BELIEFS. "

~~THAT ARTICLE IS INCLUDED IN YOUR PACKET AND LOOKS LIKE THIS. YOU MAY
WANT TO TURN TO IT FOR I SHALL BE TALKING ABOUT A SPECIFIC PART OF THAT
ARTICLE IN A FEW MINUTES.~~

Before we talk about that article let me tell you what happened from my experience.
The Call for

THE PRINCIPLES REVISION IS A DIRECT OUTGROWTH OF THE EFFORT TO IMPLEMENT
THE "WOMEN AND RELIGION" RESOLUTION. . IN 1979 AT THE GRAILVILLE
CONVOCATION ON "WOMEN AND RELIGION" I REQUESTED AND LED A WORKSHOP TITLED
"UUA PRINCIPLES, DO THEY AFFIRM US AS WOMEN?" IT WAS AN EFFORT ON MY PART
TO GET THE ^{W&R} RESOLUTION WHICH IS ABOUT ^{hierachy}~~RETHINKING, REWORKING AND REFORMING~~ ^{SEXISM - That first}

biased relationship on the hierarchical ladder
From
~~ASSUMPTIONS AND MYTHS WITH WHICH WE CREATE THE WORLD WE LIVE IN TURNED
AWAY FROM BEING MISINTERPRETED AS CONCERNED WITH GETTING MORE WOMEN INTO~~

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES. THERE ALREADY EXISTED THREE RESOLUTIONS ABOUT
GETTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN IN THE MINISTRY AND IN INSTITUTIONAL
ROLES AND THAT WORK SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE WITH THOSE RESOLUTIONS AS THE
BASIS. BUT NO ONE REMEMBERS RESOLUTIONS ONE YEAR AFTER THE NEXT , MUCH
LESS FOR 13YEARS.

THE RESPONSE TO THAT GRAILVILLE WORKSHOP WAS SURPRISING. MANY OF THOSE
WHO ATTENDED STAYED UP MOST OF THE NIGHT REWRITING THE PRINCIPLES FROM
A FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE. THEY REPORTED THEIR WORK TO THE CONVOCATION
AND WERE TOLD TO CARRY ON-TAKING THEIR WORK TO THEIR CHURCHES.

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THEY WERE BACK AGAIN AT THE CONVOCATION IN EAST LANSING IN 1980 AND
FOLLOWING THE WORK THEY DID THERE ^{under the leadership of Connie Bridges} THE CONVOCATION VOTED TO HAVE THE
SUGGESTED VERSION TAKEN TO DISTRICTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE AGENDA
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PHILADELPHIA. AT YOUR RESOLUTIONS MEETING
IN 1981-TWO YEARS AGO- YOU ^{This document} VOTED TO SUBMIT THAT SUGGESTED VERSION OF
PRINCIPLES REVISION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PHILADELPHIA.

THE ARTICLE IN YOUR PACKET IS THE FIRST AND ONLY STORY THAT HAS APPEARED
IN THE UU WORLD-THE WAY THE WHOLE MEMBERSHIP IS INFORMED ABOUT WHAT IS
HAPPENING- ABOUT THE PRINCIPLES REVIEW. THAT STORY IGNORES THE LONG
AND DETAILED WORK THAT WOMEN DID AND THE ROLE OF FOUR DISTRICTS. IN THE
OUTLINED PARAGRAPH WE AND POSTERITY ARE TOLD THAT THE EFFORT TO CLARIFY
PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES WAS INITIATED AT GA/81. IN THE NEXT SENTENCE
WE ARE INFORMED THAT WOMEN DELEGATES PUT FORTH A PROPOSAL, WHICH IGNORES
BOTH THE FACT OF ITS LONG DEVELOPMENT BY WOMEN AND THE SUPPORT OF THE
DISTRICTS. FINALLY WE ARE TOLD THAT THE PURPOSE ^{that is fiction} IS TO "DEGENERIZE THE
LANGUAGE ^{erasing} ~~TOTALLY MISLEADING ALL READERS AND IGNORING THE FACT THAT~~
^{That statement} ~~TOTALLY MISLEADING ALL READERS AND IGNORING THE FACT THAT~~

THE ISSUE IS ONE OF CONCEPTUALIZATION AND PERSPECTIVE. - *We must ask*
Who is in charge of telling us what we ought to know?
Who is rewriting her story?
WITH THIS INTERPRETATION IT IS EASY ^{for the Principles Committee} TO MOVE FORWARD AND ^{Recommend Principles That} TRENCH THE
DENOMINATION DEEPER INTO THE LIMITED PERCEPTIONS OF PATRIARCHY. I RAISE
THE QUESTION: "WILL WOMEN PERMIT THEIR WORK TO BE ERASED IN THIS MANNER?"
"WILL THE DISTRICTS THAT ENDORSED THE SUBMITTED VERSION OF THE PRINCIPLES
PERMIT THEIR VOICE TO BE SILENCED?" ^{for the Principles Committee} ~~AS WE CHANGE OUR CONSCIOUSNESS WE~~
~~WILL ALSO CHANGE POWER RELATIONSHIPS.~~ *That won't be easy.*

By asking These Questions

WE ARE OPENING UP A NEW "ISM" --"ELITEISM". JUST AS WE MUST CALL INTO
QUESTION THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE VIEW FROM THE MALE STANDPOINT IS THE ONLY
HUMAN VIEW SO WE MUST BEGIN TO CALL INTO QUESTION THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE
VIEW ^{FROM} THE LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVE IS WHOLLY REPRESENTATIVE.

AND WHILE WE ARE THINKING ALONG THIS LINE I WOULD POINT OUT THAT WE
ARE INVOLVED IN A RESOLUTIONS PROCESS REVIEW AND THERE IS NOT A SINGLE
MENTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS - ONLY A CONCERN FOR THE PROCESS
of resolution development - the process
THAT WE ARE INVOLVED IN HERE TODAY.

on the Continental level
Problems of
(the leadership role)
involving unity
possibilities

RESOLUTIONS ARE GENERALLY EXPRESSIONS OF A CONCERN FOR CHANGE. UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALISTS HAVE LONG WORKED FOR CHANGE. IN SUPPORTING THE FREE AND DIS-
CIPLINED SEARCH FOR TRUTH WE HAVE WORKED FOR CHANGE WITHIN WHAT IS NOW BE-
COMING OUR OUTMODED REALITY.

AS INDIVIDUALS MANY OF YOU HERE TODAY ARE AT THE SAME TIME INTENTIONALLY
OR INTUITIVELY REACHING FOR THE NEW REALITY, THE NEW CONSCIOUSNESS BY
PARTICIPATING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE NEW AGE GROUPS THAT ARE SPRINGING UP
ALL AROUND US.

THE UUA IS 21 YEARS OLD. ~~THEY CELEBRATED~~ THAT FACT AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LAST YEAR. IT HAS BEEN 21 YEARS SINCE MERGER. THE DENOMINATION HAS
COME OF AGE AS A NEW AGE IS BECOMING. ~~WE CAN MAKE OUR~~ PRINCIPLES REFLECT
THAT FACT. YOU OF THE PACIFIC CENTRAL DISTRICT, ACCUSTOMED AS YOU ARE TO
GEOLOGICAL SHOCK WAVES WILL URGE THE DENOMINATION TO EMBRACE THE CULTURAL
SHOCK WAVES OF THE FUTURE.

was created
With determined effort the
can
Join the movement
doubtless continue to

It will take great *the consciousness of*
~~WITH~~ RESOLUTION ~~WE CAN~~ REACH THE FUTURE BY RESOLUTION.
To