

MOM SAYS: CLEAN YOUR ROOM

What do Gloria Steinem and Archbishop Desmond Tutu have in common? They're both listening to an urgent message from Mother Earth, as are a host of others (listed below) who are singing the praises of Jean Shinoda Bolen's latest book, *Urgent Message from Mother: Gather the Women, Save the World*. Bolen is a Jungian psychologist best known for her

works *Goddesses in Everywoman* and *The Tao of Psychology*. In *Urgent Message*, she cites a broad array of sources, including Jungian archetypes and recent brain science, to make the case that women are uniquely suited to healing the world. Here's a brief introduction to a few of her ideas.

THESE PEOPLE THINK THIS BOOK ROCKS!

Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Isabel Allende
Terry Tempest Williams
The Right Reverend William E. Swing
Gerald G. Jampolsky
Riane Eisler
Sue Monk Kidd
Marilyn Fowler
Robert Muller
Gloria Feldt
Alice Walker
Patricia Smith Melton
Marianne Williamson

Woman have a biological advantage . . .

Bolen gathers years of scientific research in support of her point. Two examples: One UCLA study found that instead of coping with stress via the "fight or flight" response, women turn to a "tend and befriend" approach, seeking contact and support. Other studies suggest that the corpus callosum, a structure responsible for communication between the left and right hemispheres of the brain, which is said to improve verbal skills, is significantly larger in women's brains than men's.

Social epidemics create change . . .

Citing Malcolm Gladwell, Bolen points out that rapid change frequently takes us by surprise when an idea reaches its "tipping point." She draws on Rupert Sheldrake's morphic field theory to suggest that women's circles could fuel the tipping point.



WHAT DO WE NEED?

Bolen:
"HELP WANTED:
Everywoman [and Everyman!]
Home keepers for Earth.
Must keep premises safe for all.
Have concern for children's
needs and development, ability
to manage resources, resolve
conflicts, work collaboratively,
ask questions, listen, learn from
the experience of others, be empathic,
and act with compassion for the
benefit of all, including
generations to come."

WHY DO WE NEED IT?

Budget for the Human Family

"The purse strings of the planet are held by men," Bolen writes. If feminine sensibilities dictated the agenda, that budget would shift significantly. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the World Policy Forum, and the World Game Institute have developed a budget for "human" versus military needs. Their findings:

provide shelter: \$21 billion
eliminate starvation
and malnutrition: \$19 billion
provide clean, safe water: \$10 billion
eliminate nuclear weapons: \$7 billion
eliminate land mines: \$4 billion
eliminate illiteracy: \$5 billion
provide refugee relief: \$5 billion
stabilize population: \$10.5 billion
prevent soil erosion: \$24 billion
The estimated annual
total budget for human needs
\$105.5 billion
vs.
actual global military spending
\$900 billion

The planet is alive . . .

Bolen borrows James Lovelock and Lynn Margulis' "Gaia Hypothesis": the entire planet Earth is a living organism. The picture of Earth taken on the Apollo 11 mission in 1969 initiated a shift in human consciousness.