

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION

Amazingly the publication of this edition comes only one year after the last. The number of copies sold in the previous five printings, and the different parts of the world to which it has gone, has been beyond all hopes. The book speaks¹ of a dual process unfolding: one of breaking down and the other of building up. These processes have continued since it was first published in August, 2001. Events have spurred humankind to become ever more aware of the need for collaboration, consultation, conflict prevention and just resolutions. A multitude of areas are ripe for change precipitated by vast disparities in human prosperity and human rights violations. The current edition provides statistical, reference and research information updated since 2001.

The Wise Women (*Viisaat Naiset*), the consultative body of teachers described in the Preface to the Second Edition, continues to collaborate in the current research and has become The Wise Women and Men. The result of the latest consultations has been the “Teachers’ Skills Development Series: From a Faceless Immigrant to My Own Student and on to World Citizenship” to be conducted in October and November, 2004. It is directly focused on the collaboration of primary and lower secondary school teachers and students of education. There is still so much work to be done.

There are still more people to thank from both the recent and distant past for this work. First, Teacher Inkeri Patrikainen who taught the immigrant reception class during the time of the Human Dignity Project. She was a main collaborator during the project and continues now by contributing her ideas and sharing her expertise and experience. Thanks also to Dr. Aimo Naukkarinen and Dr.

¹ See page 111.

Hannu L.T. Heikkinen for their helpful discussions and comments during the development stages of this dissertation. Special thanks to Information Specialist Riitta Pitkänen who has tirelessly and continuously offered her expert support.

Next I turn to my roots. I would most sincerely like to thank my mentor and friend Professor Loretta Morris who started me on my road as a sociologist. She is an exemplary teacher who is able to simultaneously challenge your mind, stretch your skills and empower you to believe that you can do it.

Finally, with love and respect to my parents Margaret Domenica Trotta and Aristotle Leonidas Trotta, how can I thank you enough for always being an example to me of integrity, world citizenship and kindness? Indeed, my mother, when she was eight years old, received the same advice from her mother just before she died. Her mother said, "A Sicilian can be prejudiced against no man, because they are all his relatives". How true this is, not only for Sicilians, but for all of us.

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