

Criteria to evaluate work for peace of justice

A new paradigm for Brazil's Lula de Silva, the Americas, the USA and all victims of the global economy

**Presented by Global Peace Studies Professors, Howard Richards and Joanna Swanger,
17 May 2003, Centre for Transformation Studies, Toronto, Ontario)**

How are we encouraging the responsible exercise of the rights and duties of property ownership, and channelling the benefits of natural resources and other kinds of property so that more people enjoy them?

What are we doing to move beyond the commercial society based on contractual relationships between mutually indifferent buyers and sellers toward a truly human society whose norms function to take care of everybody?

How are we using our freedom to encourage other people to use their freedom, to discern the right action, to make the right choices, and honor our values and commitments?

How are we empowering people to participate in the creation of culture?

Note: This set of criteria for evaluating any given program or project, includes just the main criteria, which alone, however, reflect the need for a paradigm shift.

See also:

1. Richards, *The Evaluation of Cultural Action*. London: Macmillan, 1985; and
2. Richards, The Nehru Lecture: An Evaluation for Constructive Development

More teach-in materials:

- What is a paradigm?
- Teach-in: Global economy: history, issues, solution
- Criteria for Work in Peace & Justice (with Biblical references)

A new paradigm for the Americas, the US and all victims of the global economy

Programming and evaluating for systemic transformation

Concluding exercise:

1. GENERATIVE THEMES

Are we using words and images, which are understood in the milieu or just talking to ourselves?

2. ENERGIES

Are we tapping into vital energies or just beating our heads against a wall with enthusiasm about a cause, which does not move anyone else?

3. TRANSFORMING HINGES

Have we found the growth points where what we understand and what motivates us leads us to transformation of the basic structures of the world?

4. STRUCTURAL CHANGE – The Paradigm Shift

Is what we are doing just doable because people like it and can get funding for it, or is it worth doing because it changes oppressive structures?

1. PROPERTY—from: *suum cuique* to social function

2. HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS—from contracts among strangers to communities of care

3. Defining FREEDOM as Martin Luther King Jr. defined it: being self directed, though not self-centered

4. EMPOWERING people to participate in the creation of culture

PEACE EDUCATION BOOKS

