

Registration

Scholarship Fund: A scholarship fund has been established and we encourage those who need it to apply by enclosing a letter of application with your registration, before 19th of August.

Please include in your application, details of your financial situation and your current work for social change. Also give us an indication of the amount that you are able to pay.

Sliding Scales: Our charges are on a sliding scale because participants come from different economic backgrounds. We ask you to choose the amount most appropriate for you taking into account your financial situation. The higher amount generally applies to those on a full-time wage (\$35,000 and above) and the lower end of the range to those who are unwaged.

Helping others come: By paying an amount at the higher end of the scale you will be contributing to the scholarship fund and helping others to come.

Children: Our intention in providing childcare for a limited number of 5 ~ 12 year olds is to assist parents who could not otherwise attend. However you must book early. Childcare for under 5s would need to be worked out co-operatively between parents. While it is not possible for young children to attend sessions, we welcome interested teenagers to join in.

Registration & Costs

Prices include accommodation and delicious vegetarian food.

Adults: \$210 ~ \$390.

Children 5+ :\$80. Children U/5: \$40.

Please register early: Registrations before 19th of August attracts a \$20 DISCOUNT. Pre-registration is essential and the last date for registration is 19th of September.

Send the completed registration form below along with a deposit cheque for \$60 made out to "Interhelp" and post it to:

**Heart Politics Conference, Elly Wilson,
Siddha Farm, Young Road, Nimbin NSW 2480.**



***Yes!* Please register me/us for the
Heart Politics Gathering.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Ph: Work _____ Home _____

Dormitory: Yes/No. Camping: Yes/No. *Motel: Yes/No
Near by motels for those who wish ~ you book.

- The fee I plan to pay is \$ _____
 - Additional amount for children \$ _____
 - \$60 deposit per adult is included. Total \$ _____
(not refundable after 12th September '97)
 - Names & ages of children _____
 - I need to be picked up from: bus / train / airport at
(town) _____ I need a ride from _____
 - Special needs including food allergies _____
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Engaged, collaborative planning is a feature of successful social action.

This year's Heart Politics gathering will be focused on the value of such planning in helping participants make the most of their coming year of community life and action.

The conference will begin by looking at the political and social situation in Australia. Issues such as the Wik 10-point plan and the treatment of Aborigines, economic "rationalism" and the rush to privatisation, and environmental degradation would appear to be already on the agenda.

Our keynote speakers will present their assessment of the problems and opportunities which face us and suggest positive strategies for change. This will form a platform from which we can together consider the external factors which affect us.

From here we will turn to the inner determinants which give us strength and hold us back. A feature of all Heart Politics gatherings is to take the time to hear stories of the successes and challenges of participants. These stories can give us the inspiration and ideas to move forward and give us insight into the personal issues confronting us.

We will share tools, ideas and experiences to help us work effectively to empower ourselves and others. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their skills in small workshops.

Joanna Macy, a well known US social activist and author has spoken of **three levels of social change**:

- **the holding operations**, the front line, where people are often engaged in direct action in social, environmental and other struggles;
- **structural change** where people analyse current structures and create positive alternatives ; and
- **transformative change** (revolution in consciousness) which is working on attitudes and enlivening spirit.

Workshops and discussions will recognise all three levels in helping us to develop constructive strategies for change.



Steps In Creating Change

In the sharing of hopes, ideas, experiences and skills a clearer vision and new directions for the coming year can emerge. This will help each person to plan and make commitment for their area of interest. A key aspect of this planning will be to help identify support strategies, networks and advisers that will move us forward.

Heart Politics Gatherings explore the transformation that can occur when social and political change happen in tandem with personal change. Many of our political and social problems will not be solved at the same level of thinking that has caused these problems. We must make fundamental shifts in consciousness in order to find solutions. This fundamental change in consciousness is the path of integrating the head and the heart.

The gathering is a blend of conference, workshop and celebration. It will be a highly participatory event. There will be speakers, workshops, support groups, circle sharing, interest groups, music, dancing, relaxation time and lots of fun. Participants are encouraged to network and to also take time out to rest and recuperate.

Keynote Speakers

Tony Kelly has been involved in the practice of community development for nearly 30 years. Tony has a particular interest in the creation of peaceful communities through community development, as he is all too familiar with the poverty caused by violence. Another interest is the impact of community development practice on major issues such as globalisation. Tony has also worked extensively with Aboriginal people. He has written a book on a practical framework for community development called "With Head, Heart and Hands".

Stephanie Dowrick lives in Sydney with her family. Since 1982, writing has been her principal occupation. She is currently Chair of The Women's Press, London, which she co-founded in 1977.

Her books, as well as her regular contributions to ABC Radio National's "Life Matters", have gained her a wide following. Her published works include the much-loved international best-sellers, "Running Backwards Over Sand" and "Intimacy and Solitude".

In 1997, she will publish two new books, "Forgiveness and Other Acts Of Love" and a novel, "Tasting Salt".

The Venue

The gathering will be held at Camp Drewe set in the coastal heartland between Byron Bay and Lennox Head from Friday 26th September to Tuesday 30th September.

We would like to acknowledge that this land is part of the Bunjalung Nation.

It is a very short walk across the dunes to a beautiful beach or the sheltered ti-tree Lake Ainsworth.

Accommodation is in simple dormitories (or in your tent or van if you wish). There is a campfire and lots of room to play and relax. The venue is flat and wheelchair accessible.

Workshops

We welcome participants doing workshops related to the theme of the gathering. Please send a draft of your workshop proposal before 12/9/97.

There will also be workshops on:

- Macro analysis & Planning
- Uranium
- Strategic Questioning
- Social movement analysis.

Inquiries:

Elly and Greg Wilson ~
Phone (066) 891 074.

Heart

Politics

THE 9TH GATHERING

**Planning Action ~
Steps in Creating Change**



W. Eugene Smith

**The challenges that face us today
~ making a commitment to
a fairer tomorrow.**



September 26th - 30th 1997

Camp Drewe Lennox Head
(Near Byron Bay)