

Contents

Foreword xiii

Series Preface xv

About the Authors xvii

Acknowledgments xix

Introduction xxi

Section I Mediating Environmental Conflicts

1. Approaches to Mediation..... 3

 Forks in the Metaphorical Road of Mediation..... 3

 The Mediation Process, as Chris Practices It 5

 The Three-Part Mediation Process 7

 Introduction 7

 Body 8

 Conclusion..... 12

 Overcoming Animosity 13

 Conflict Management, as Lynette Teaches It..... 14

 A Practical Course with Multidisciplinary Applications..... 15

 The Four Stages of the Water Conflict Management Framework 15

 Adversarial Stage 16

 Reflective Stage 16

 Integrative Stage 17

 Action Stage 18

 Conclusion..... 18

 Discussion Questions 19

 Discussion Questions from the Mediation Process, as Chris Practices It..... 19

 Discussion Questions from the Mediation Process, as Lynette Teaches It 20

2. Conflict and Cooperation Are Choices..... 23

 What Is a “Right”? 25

 The Equality of Differences..... 27

 Environmental Justice Is Predicated on Human Equality..... 29

 Perceived Resource Scarcity Accentuates Environmental Conflict..... 31

 Resource Overexploitation and the Fear of Imaginary Loss..... 33

 Conflict Is a Mistake..... 36

Conflict Is Usually Based on the Misjudgment of Appearances.....	37
Conflict Is Merely a Product of Our Mutual Choices	39
River Basin	40
Political Demarcations.....	40
Water Conflicts and Cooperation Between Nations that Share Water Resources	42
Water Conflicts and Cooperation Within a Nation.....	43
Conflicts and Cooperation: You and Me.....	44
Discussion Questions	45
3. Creating Meaningful Communication	49
Introduction.....	49
Exploring Complex Systems.....	50
Exploring Group Interactions	54
Stakeholder Engagement	54
International Involvements.....	56
Exploring Interpersonal Interactions.....	57
Exploring Intrapersonal Interactions.....	59
Discussion Questions	60
4. The Global Commons and the Social Principles of Sustainability	65
Human Population: A Matter of Gender Equality.....	66
How the Commons Usufruct Law Arose.....	68
The Precursor of Today's Environmental Conflicts.....	71
Social Principles of Engagement in a Sustainable Society.....	73
Social Principle 1: Sharing Life's Experiences Connects Us to One Another	73
Social Principle 2: Cooperation and Coordination Are the Bedrock of Sustaining the Social-Environmental Commons.....	74
Social Principle 3: The Art of Living Lies in How We Practice Relationships.....	74
Social Principle 4: Success or Failure Lies in the Interpretation of an Event.....	75
Social Principle 5: You See What You Look for and Focus On.....	75
Social Principle 6: People Must Be Equally Informed If They Are to Function as a Truly Democratic Society	75
Social Principle 7: We Must Consciously Limit Our "Wants"	76
Social Principle 8: Every Decision Is the Author of a Never-Ending Story of Social-Environmental Outcomes for All Generations	76

Social Principle 9: Simplicity Is the Key to Contentment, Adaptability, and Survival.....	76
Social Principle 10: Marvel at the Abundance and Resilience of Earth	76
Social Principle 11: Only Mobile Property Can Be Owned Outright.....	77
Social Principle 12: Nature, Spirituality, and Human Well-Being Are Paramount.....	77
Social Principle 13: Every Legal Citizen Deserves the Right to Vote	77
Social Principle 14: We Must Choose—In That We Have No Choice	77
Social Principle 15: We Change the World Simply Because We Exist.....	77
Social Principle 16: We Must Kill to Live.....	78
Social Principle 17: This Eternal, Present Moment Is All There Is.....	78
Discussion Questions	78
5. The Biophysical Principles of Sustainability	81
The Paradox of Life.....	81
Air: The Breath of Life—And of Death.....	83
Soil: The Great Placenta	84
Water: A Captive of Gravity	85
Biodiversity: The Variety of Life.....	85
Sunlight: The Source of Global Energy	87
The Waterbed Principle.....	88
Understanding the Law of Cosmic Unification.....	89
The Inviolable Biophysical Principles	92
Biophysical Principle 1: Everything Is a Relationship	92
Biophysical Principle 2: All Relationships Are Productive.....	93
Biophysical Principle 3: The Only True Investment Is Energy from Sunlight.....	94
Biophysical Principle 4: All Systems Are Defined by Their Functional Performance.....	95
Biophysical Principle 5: All Relationships Result in a Transfer of Energy	96
Biophysical Principle 6: All Relationships Are Self-Reinforcing Feedback Loops.....	96
Biophysical Principle 7: All Relationships Have One or More Trade-offs	99
Biophysical Principle 8: Change Is a Process of Eternal Becoming.....	100
Biophysical Principle 9: All Relationships Are Irreversible	101

Biophysical Principle 10: All Systems Are Based on Composition, Structure, and Function.....	101
Biophysical Principle 11: All Systems Have Cumulative Effects, Lag Periods, and Thresholds	103
Biophysical Principle 12: All Systems Are Cyclical, But None Is a Perfect Circle	105
Biophysical Principle 13: Systemic Change Is Based on Self-Organized Criticality.....	106
Biophysical Principle 14: Dynamic Disequilibrium Rules All Systems	107
Discussion Questions	108
6. The Human Equation	113
A Child's Gift.....	115
We Take Our Family with Us.....	116
Dysfunctional Family Dynamics Lead to Ongoing Destructive Conflict	116
Homeostasis Is Designed to Hide Dysfunction	117
Boundaries, the Silent Language.....	118
Coping Mechanisms: Unconscious Thoughts that Manifest as Recognizable Behaviors	121
Anger and Aggression	123
Appraisal	124
Defensiveness	124
Denial.....	125
Displacement	126
Filters.....	126
Projection.....	127
Rationalization	128
Repression.....	128
Resistance	129
Standards and Judgment	130
Victimhood	131
The Capacity for Rational Thought.....	132
Everyone Is Right from Their Point of View	134
Acceptance of Circumstances Offers the Choices of What Might Be	137
Discussion Questions	138
7. Communication, the Interpersonal Element	141
Language as a Tool	141
The Use of Silence in Communication.....	144
The Need to Be Heard.....	145
The Basic Elements of Communication	146

Sender 147

Symbols 147

Receiver..... 147

Changes in the *Oxford Dictionary for Children*..... 148

Nature Deficit Disorder in Children..... 150

Barriers to Communication..... 151

 Lack of a Common Experience or Frame of Reference..... 151

 Generalized Personality Traits..... 152

Making Language Real..... 156

Inability to Transfer Experiences from One Situation
to Another 158

Discussion Questions..... 160

8. Conflict Is a Learning Partnership..... 163

 A Mediator Is at All Times a Guest and a Leader
 Simultaneously 163

 Leadership Is the Art of Being a Servant..... 164

 Hidden Agendas 166

 Mediator 166

 Participant 167

 Rethinking the Use of "Consensus" 168

 Mediator as Teacher..... 169

 The Foundation of Learning..... 169

 How People Learn..... 170

 Factors Affecting Perception 170

 Insights..... 171

 Motivation 172

 The Fallacy of Rescuing 173

 A Mediator's Role in Participant Relationships..... 174

 Mediation Means Total Participation..... 175

 Detachment and Equanimity..... 177

 As a Mediator, You Must Be a Sieve, Not a Sponge 178

 As a Mediator, You Are the Keeper of Each Participant's
 Dignity..... 180

 Have a Beginner's Mind..... 182

 Being Oneself 185

 The Continual Learning Curve..... 186

 Not Knowing an Answer Is Okay 187

 Success or Failure Is the Interpretation of an Event..... 188

 Assisting Parties in Clarifying and Resolving
 Their Conflict..... 190

 When Potential Resolution Is in Violation of Public
 Policy or Law 190

 Discussion Questions..... 190

Section II The Legacy of Resolving Environmental Conflicts

9. Practicing Mediation of Conscience	195
Compromise and the Point of Balance	197
A Curriculum of Compassion and Justice.....	198
Mediation as a Gift Is Free, But as a Trade Has a Cost.....	199
Discussion Questions	201
10. Resolution: Destructive Conflict Transformed into a Shared Vision	203
Who Are We as a Culture?	203
What Legacy Do We Want to Leave Our Children?	206
Vision, Goals, and Objectives.....	209
What About the Children?	214
Discussion Questions	216
11. Modifying Our Belief Systems Regarding Change	217
Discussion Questions	220
Appendix: Common and Scientific Names of Plants and Animals	221
Index	225