Beyond the Culture of Contest

By Michael Karlberg

George Ronald. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 247 pages. Michael Karlberg put forward the thesis that our present culture of contest is both socially unjust and ecologically unsustainable and that the surrounding culture of protest is an inadequate response to the social and ecological problems it generates. How can social change come about Is it possible to have democratic government without political parties Can we have a productive economy without unfettered and aggressive competition How can social and ecological ills be addressed without resorting to a culture of protestAdversarialism has become the predominant strand in contemporary western-liberal societies. Throughout the public sphere, competitive and conflictual practices have become institutionalised norms. In his analysis of present-day society, Michael Karlberg puts forward the thesis that our present culture of contest is both socially unjust and ecologically unsustainable and that the surrounding culture of protest is an inadequate response to the social and ecological problems it generates. The development of non-adversarial structures and practices is imperative. Dr Karlberg considers various historical and contemporary expressions of mutualism, including expressions within feminism, systems theory, ecology and environmentalism, communication theory and alternative dispute resolution, and presents a case study of the Bahai community and its experience...

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