

The Secret, The New Age, and The New Paradigm
Al Thelander, Penn Valley, CA

I am responding to the article in the Summer 2007 Psi Symposium Newsletter concerning "Oprah and The Secret." I have not read *The Secret* and do not plan to. From what I have read about it, it seems to be a rather simplistic approach to a complex issue. However this idea of the power of our thoughts is not a concept to be dismissed with condescension. Some scholars and scientists are seriously researching the power of our thoughts. A new book by Lynne McTaggart, *The Intention Experiment: Using Your Thoughts to Change Your Life and the World*, describes some of this research and invites readers to participate in further research. Her web site, <http://www.theintentionexperiment.com/>, offers viewers a way to participate in such experiments.

What I am more concerned about is the labeling of *The Secret* as "irresponsible New Age nonsense." The negativity of this comment is not only unhelpful, but is untrue. The teaching that our thoughts determine our lives is far older than the "New Age" of the 1960's and later. It is one of the key ideas of the New Thought movement, which dates back to the nineteenth century and includes Christian Science, Unity, Religious Science, etc. and considers our own Ralph Waldo Emerson as one of its sources. In fact, this teaching can be traced back to ancient wisdom.

It is a very empowering idea, yet it has its limits. Obviously our lives are not only influenced by our own thoughts, but also by the thoughts of others in our environment. And our thoughts are influenced by our unconscious as well. So it is not as simple as quotes from *The Secret* make it to be. Yet to the degree that we have confidence in our own thoughts these thoughts may be powerful. If *The Secret* enables individuals to have more confidence in their own thoughts—their plans and affirmations for the future, it may serve a good purpose. To the degree that we think of ourselves as creative forces in our own lives, we may be so. But, to the extent that *The Secret* blames people for their unhappy life situations it is foolish and hurtful.

When I was a student at Starr King School for the Ministry in the early 1970's, the New Age movement was in full swing. It was an exciting time. I still have positive thoughts and feelings about that movement. It was a serious critique of the dominant culture of the times and led to black liberation, women's liberation, and other very positive developments. Admittedly it had its dark sides in drug usage, promiscuity, and narcissism, yet it was overall an optimistic, liberating philosophy. The philosopher of the movement David Spangler described it as "a change of consciousness from one of isolation and separation to one of communion, attunement and wholeness." One historian of religion has described it as a "third option" beyond dogmatic Christianity and the rationalistic/scientific ideology that is still dominant in our culture. Unitarian Universalism is also an option that goes beyond those two more dogmatic ideologies; I saw much in common between the New Age philosophy and our UU philosophy, at least as I understood it. This philosophy has informed much of my ministry.

Although the New Age as such was less talked about as time went on, the new ideas became part of our culture, at least the more liberal segment of our culture. In 1980, Marilyn Ferguson wrote *The Aquarian Conspiracy: Personal and Social Transformation in the 1980s* describing in this 400-page book a "paradigm shift" that could result from New Age ideas and practices at all levels, ideas that I believe most UUs would agree with. She described human relationships based on trust and equality and a world without war and hunger and gave examples of what people were doing to achieve such a world. Unfortunately she was too optimistic in thinking these changes would largely happen in the 1980s.

Now some scientists are writing of a paradigm shift, a new way of looking at reality and studying it. Researches in quantum physics have shown the inadequacy of the rationalistic/materialistic worldview. Quantum physicists saw early in their work that

consciousness was crucial. Max Planck, father of quantum physics, said as he accepted the Nobel Prize: “All matter originates and exists only by virtue of a force... We must assume behind this force the existence of a conscious and intelligent Mind. This Mind is the matrix of all matter.” And Sir Arthur Eddington, astronomer and physicist, wrote: “...the stuff of the world is mind stuff.” In more recent times Amit Goswami, Ph.D., professor of physics at the University of Oregon, has written a book titled *The Self-Aware Universe: How Consciousness Creates the Material World*. In this book Professor Goswami shows that a materialistic philosophy cannot explain the paradoxes of quantum physics, while a philosophy based on universal consciousness does resolve these paradoxes.

The fundamental ideas of this new paradigm are that consciousness, not matter, is the basic reality of our universe and that this consciousness is non-local, that there is one universal field of consciousness that pervades each of us and all reality. This is, of course, a contemporary echo of the perennial philosophy that Aldous Huxley wrote of some years ago. For those of us in the Psi Symposium this worldview provides a basis for understanding psi phenomena. And some scientists are now working on this. Dean Radin, research scientist at the Institute of Noetic Sciences, has worked on psi for years, demonstrating its reality by way of strictly controlled experiments. Psi Symposium members may be interested in his recent books: *The Conscious Universe* and *Entangled Minds*. The Institute of Noetic Sciences, founded by astronaut Edgar Mitchell after his return from space and a mystical experience he had on that journey, is doing much other work on the potentials and powers of consciousness that may also be of interest. See their web site <http://noetic.org>.

President’s Response: Kick-Starting the Future

I very much appreciate my colleague in ministry, the Rev. Albert Thelander, taking the time to respond to my previous President’s column on “Oprah and the Secret.” I welcome Al’s critique of my critique of the limitations of New Age philosophy. I especially applaud his summary quotation of *New Age Religion and Western Culture* by Wouter Hanegraaff and find myself thoroughly in agreement with its basic sentiments. I would still reiterate, however, that though our thoughts are powerful, and indeed they are they are not all powerful. Not every-thing that happens to us and manifests in our lives is wholly and completely the result of what we have thought or done. The thoughts and deeds of others, and the forces and powers of nature gone awry, are also a large factor and it is indeed a complex inter-relationship.

Not all material wealth and riches are the result of positive thoughts and deeds on the part of the wealthy. Some of it is the result of greed and selfishness and the oppression of those who are less fortunate. Not everyone who falls ill, or loses a job, or is raped, plundered, murdered or killed in war or accident has wholly brought this on themselves by their thoughts or actions. Sometimes we are the victim of circumstances that are beyond our capacity to know or control. Yes, we need to straighten out our thinking about ourselves and our world use prayer, meditation, visualization, and the like and then do whatever else we can to improve ourselves and make a better world in the process.

Buddhists suggest there are two things we can never fully know nor comprehend. One is the beginningless beginning of all things (ultimate origins). The other is the tangled web of karma that interconnects us all over many lifetimes (ultimate outcomes and endings). So let us not use the truths and insights of New Age or New Thought philosophy to blame the victim and compound their guilt and suffering. Rather let us use our spiritual and material resources and energy to offer justice, care and compassion and thereby help to transform ourselves and our world. That way, and in that way only, we can kick-start the future and help our karma to override our dogma. So be it. (R.M.F.)

PSI Symposium at Ferry Beach – August, 2007
Peg Smith, PSI Vice-President and Ferry Beach coordinator of PSI program

I am very pleased to report that there were 20 participants at PSI's program and according to their Program Evaluations at the end of the week, they were very pleased with the experience. The workshop leader, Louise Olivi, instructed us in the Art of Spiritual Healing first, then Developed our Intuition. Finally. using those intuitive skills we engaged in Past Life Recall. However, the program was also flexible, responding to the needs and experiences of the group. And throughout, conferees were encouraged to process the insights gained during the exercises, with increasing intuitive awareness. There was a warm group feeling, and a lot of helpful dialogue in the processing. And Louise was very generous in donating her time outside class hours to process with individuals around their experiences.

Two afternoons, Louise channeled Maasaw, a Hopi Deity, and one evening she presented a fascinating slide lecture of Crop circles, from trips to England. (She's planning on leading a tour to the sacred sites in England where there are crop circles in summer 2008, if you are interested in an unforgettable vacation. Her e-mail address is: lolivi2001@yahoo.com)

Preview of Summer 2008: I'm really excited about the next summer's Psi program at Ferry Beach. The theme will be "The Power of Consciousness" and we will be exploring and extending our inner landscape. Sibylle Baughan will lead a workshop on "Guided Imagery and Music", designed to expand our consciousness, and use it in healing. In Vicki Baird's workshop, we will consider the evidence for the survival of consciousness after death. Vicki is a psychic medium. More about this in the next Newsletter.

Report Of PSI Symposium General Assembly 2007 Presentation by Roberta Watson, Clearwater FL convener and Panel chair.

This program was wonderful beyond my wildest imaginings (let alone my expectations). The room, which could legally hold 180 (despite being set up for only 117), was PACKED, and we had to turn people away because of strictly enforced fire safety codes. Both the IANDS speakers were excellent, and the audience was enthralled. We left quite a bit of time for questions, and people formed a long continuous line to ask questions at the microphone. We finally had to end the questions when we were about 10 minutes over our allotted time, and still people came up to talk to us afterwards. Linda Jacquin told a beautiful tale of having an NDE as an adult, in which she encountered her brother who had died 10 days previously. He told her it wasn't her time and she came back. She had always had a sporadic vision of blonde hair floating on water, and was then regressed to the age of 4-1/2, where she drowned and saw her body with blonde hair floating on water. In that case, an angel rescued her, and she came back because her brother was supposed to be watching her, and if she had stayed dead it would have ruined his life.

Jan Holden talked about recent research on NDEs. It seems that about 10% of people with cardiac arrest in hospitals will have an NDE, and demographics don't affect the percentages. People who have the NDEs are changed forever, and are not afraid of death but believe in living life to the fullest. I'm hoping I can get someone from IANDS to meet my Clearwater Chapter at some point, as I think there is much commonality. I suggest we do a program next year on something related to quantum physics. We should also try to have a booth. I think there are lots of UUs who would love to know that PSI exists. I took half the new brochures with me, and handed out all but about

40 of them (keeping the other half for use with my Chapter). I think that if we get around we can get more Chapters. I told several people to call me about tips for starting a new Chapter.

And, Anna Z. Sylvester, responding to Roberta's presentation, went back to San Francisco and, with Josette Van Fleet as co-chair, is petitioning their church for initiating a new PSI Symposium chapter.

Berkshire Portal Activities and Studies during the Year 2006-2007 **Peg Smith, PSI Vice-President and Pittsfield, MA coordinator**

The Berkshire Portal meets every week in the homes of members. At each meeting we have a "check-in", a healing circle, and some kind of program. Meetings are usually during the day; about once a month there is some kind of celebration with a pot luck lunch or supper. We celebrate the solstices and equinoxes, Christmas, Halloween, and occasionally someone's "special" birthday. The Portal occasionally has speakers, field trips, and tries to have a few mainly creative sessions.

Fall

In September, 2006 we decided to become a chapter of UU PSI symposium and eight of our members joined PSI. We began the Fall with 4 weeks of studying "The Shift" by Owen Waters, a most hopeful book showing impressive evidence that humanity's consciousness is currently in the process of shifting to a higher level. At our Halloween celebration, we learned a bit about the origins of Halloween, and each made a mask symbolic of a mythical or magical creature, or god/goddess from our own cultural/religious traditions. It was interesting researching our "roots". In late fall, a member of our group led us in sessions of Shamanic Journeying. In each session, we created a collage or drew a picture of the journey, then discussed it. We returned to Donna Eden's "The Energy Medicine Kit" for a couple of sessions of energy healing. Then we ended the year with a Solstice-Christmas Celebration.

Winter

With some of our members having left for Florida, winter means a smaller group. We had viewed "The Secret" the previous summer, and felt that a return to the teachings of Abraham, in greater depth was in order. Three of our members took turns presenting the book "The Law of Attraction", by Esther and Jerry Hicks, and leading exercises to reinforce the teachings. This was followed by meetings at which we listened to and discussed a series of tapes of Abraham/Hicks. We also learned how to make "Vision Boxes" by folding paper. The boxes, which we also decorated, were for holding our intentions.

Spring

We celebrated the Spring Equinox, then on May 1 we celebrated Beltane with a pot luck supper and bonfire. (Here in the Berkshires we *really* are grateful for Spring). We finished the Abraham teachings in mid May. Then, as a preparation for the study of "The Divine Matrix", by Greg Braden, we spent four weeks learning about "The Field" by Lynn McTaggart. The two books were complementary, but "The Field", a fascinating book about the scientific (and metaphysical) discoveries in the fields of physics and biology, by cutting edge scientists, also provided a good background for "The Divine Matrix". During this period we secured the services of a psychic medium, and during two of our regular meetings, everyone had a chance to meet alone with her for about 50 minutes. Everyone was pleased with their session, and some went back for further meetings.

Summer

In June the summer solstice was celebrated on a mountaintop. After that we began the study of "The Divine Matrix". But we took time out to gather on the shores of beautiful Pontoosuc Lake for a very early morning meditation, joining a worldwide meditation to "Fire the Grid", sending love, healing, and joy to the energy grid that surrounds the Earth. It was quite extraordinary. Blueberry picking after a meeting, the passing of an aged relative, vacation trips to visit adult children, time out for 8 of us to attend a very enriching "Body, Mind, Spirit" Conference at Ferry Beach, a Grandmother Lodge for one of our members, were all part of the fabric of this summer.....of life.

Fall 2007

We are now in the process of planning an exciting line-up for the year, and will let you know in the next issue of the Newsletter what has ensued.

PSI MEMBERS.....

- **Would you like to be notified of psi-type events in your area?**
- **Would you like to know if there are PSI Sym members living near-by?**
- **Or have an on-line discussion with other PSI members about a book you've just read?**
- **Or share thoughts with members who have the same psychic/spiritual/healing interests as you?**

PSI is entering the 21st Century! We want to establish a List Serve just for PSI members, so that we can communicate with each other quickly and easily about upcoming events, books we've found interesting, what the local PSI Chapter is doing, etc.

But to do this, we need your e-mail address. Please send it to Dianne Klinger, the Clerk of PSI Symposium - dianklinger@mac.com

(Editor's note: PSI Symposium, among many other groups, was removed from UU affiliation. This has led to a spirited discussion about how to re-affiliate and here is our response.)

Re: UU Psi Symposium's Reapplication for Independent Affiliate Status

The following pages convey the evidence and rationale, as seen from our point of view, that support the Unitarian Universalist Psi Symposium's perception that we meet the requirements for IAS as identified in Rule 3.8.1.

Date: October 22, 2007

From: Reverend Glen Snowden, a member of the UU Psi Symposium Board of Directors

At our meeting of the Board of Directors on September 22, 2007, the Unitarian Universalist Psi Symposium voted to reapply for Independent Affiliate Status. We believe the UU Psi Symposium meets the requirements for IAS.

The Unitarian Universalist Psi Symposium, founded in 1969, was the outgrowth of a very successful Workshop on Parapsychology at the Boston General Assembly in 1969. Subsequently the UUA Board of Trustees granted Independent Affiliate Status to the UU Psi Symposium; and next the IRS granted 501(c)(3) status to the UU Psi Symposium. Although initially Psi Sym exclusively focused on the study of parapsychology, it soon expanded its vision to include the whole range of metaphysical, paranormal and spiritual topics as well as alternative wellness therapies.

The UU Psi Symposium's By-Laws in Article II. PURPOSE states: "The PURPOSE of the Unitarian Universalist Psi Symposium is to provide an organization for Unitarian Universalists and others interested in the study of metaphysics, holistic health, meditation, psi [a Greek letter which refers to the paranormal], spiritual development and related subjects."

As an Independent Affiliate, Psi Sym has served as a significant resource to our UU Congregations in the above areas.

During the past 38 years all but one of our UU Psi Symposium Presidents have been Unitarian Universalist Ministers. Reverend Robert Slater, Minister of the Greater Lynn Church, and Reverend Richard Fewkes, Minister of the UU Church in Norwell, have both been long-time, successful Parish Ministers in Massachusetts. Reverend Robert Payson, Minister of the UU Church in Lancaster, PA, also conducted a long and successful parish ministry. Reverend Peter Lanzillotta is now a Parish Minister in Charleston, SC, and Reverend Glen Snowden, a retired Chaplain and Faculty member of Emerson College, Boston, MA, also served as Interim Minister. The one exception, referred to above, is Mr. Isham Peugh, a member of the Follen Church Society of Lexington, MA. All our Presidents – Ministers and Lay Person - sought to integrate their commitment to the Association's Seven Principles and the goals of Psi Symposium.

The point we wish to make is this: During Psi Symposium's 38 years of existence its Leaders have provided significant Ministerial leadership to our UU Congregations and have also served as valuable Resource persons – in the area of Psi Symposium topics - to our larger universe of UU Congregations. Clearly, our Leaders have demonstrated a loyalty to the purposes, goals and processes of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.

Some years ago Psi Symposium published a Junior High Religious Education Course on Parapsychology and Religion that was originally developed and used at the Old Ship Church in Hingham, MA. Chapter Packets were also developed that could be used for Adult Education programs in our local churches.

Over the past years the UU Psi Symposium officially sponsored Psi Symposium Chapters in Massachusetts [Lynn/Swampscott, Norwell, Wellesley, Braintree, Lexington, North Andover, Needham, Dedham and Pittsfield], as well as sponsored Chapters in Lancaster, PA; Washington, DC; Clearwater, FL; San Francisco, CA; Denver, CO; Rocky River, OH; Carbondale, IL. Our point is this: Our Chapter activities and programs have directly contributed to the quality of life of our UU Congregations. Many of our Chapters also have been instrumental in bringing new members into the local UU Churches that otherwise would not have been introduced to Unitarian Universalism.

Since spiritual growth is one of our highest priorities, as evidenced in our By-Laws, the Psi Symposium fully endorses and seeks to implement an "acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our Congregations." The Psi Symposium Chapters – by way of their programs and individual members – serve as a significant intellectual and spiritual resource to our UU Congregations. Some members of our local Psi Symposium Chapters participate in and/or conduct the Sunday Services in their respective UU Churches.

Through our Workshops at General Assembly we also seek to connect with UU persons around the country. Every year the UU Psi Symposium offers at least one Workshop at GA. A few years ago at the Forth Worth General Assembly, we sponsored Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman, Senior Minister of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas. Dr. Hallman's Workshop topic: "Meditation for Unitarian Universalists." At the 2007 Portland GA we sponsored the Workshop: "Lessons from the Light—What We Can Learn from the Near Death Experience." Two of the Panel Members were major leaders and investigators in the field of "near death experience." The room was packed with UUs; standing room only. Psi Sym's Workshops at General Assembly are a direct contribution to the larger UU Movement as they genuinely do encourage the "free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

We have petitioned the Planning Committee to offer a Workshop at next year's General Assembly in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Our Presenter is John Kachuba, a member of the UU Fellowship of Athens, OH and a member of the Writing Faculty at the University. John Kachuba is a frequent speaker on the subject of the paranormal at conferences and on radio and television. John Kachuba's most recent book is Ghosthunters: On the Trail of Mediums, Dowzers, Spirit Seekers and Other Investigators of America's Paranormal World.

For the past 25 years the UU Psi Symposium has been reaching out to the larger UU community through its summer conferences at Ferry Beach, ME. In our Workshops at the Beach, Psi Sym has encouraged a process of dialogue with individuals from very diverse groups, for example: Ministers from Spiritualist Churches; a former Jesuit Priest who heads a spiritual retreat center; Native American spirituality teachers, Shamans, Yoga spirituality teachers, Energy practitioners as well as UU Ministers.

Currently Psi Sym participates in the Mind, Body and Spirit Week at the Beach, collaborating with other Workshops, UU groups and persons. This past summer we offered the following Workshops at the Beach: Increasing Intuition, Past Life Recall, the Art of Spiritual Healing, the Crop Circle Phenomena, and a Channeling Session. The theme of Psi Sym's 2008 summer conference at the Beach is: The Power of Consciousness. We will offer Workshops that (1) expand consciousness through Guided Imagery and Music, which will include the use of consciousness for healing, and (2) explore the topic of survival of consciousness after death.

The UU Psi Symposium publishes three NEWSLETTERS a year and an Annual Journal, and offers a Web Site. All three venues carry a diversity of perspectives on a whole range of "psi" topics – mysticism, metaphysics, meditation, spiritual development, parapsychological and psychic skills, holistic health and healing, life after death and unexplained phenomena, such as crop circles and extra terrestrial intelligence. We encourage persons, both inside and outside of the UU Movement, to report their unique "psi" experiences and to engage in dialogue and research regarding their personal experiences. In 2004-05 the Annual Journal focused on the relationship, both personal and historical, of being a Mystic and a Unitarian Universalist. In the later issue of 2006-2007, the Annual Journal explored in greater depth the variety of Mystical Experiences in Dreams, Worship, and Social Action; and six of our UU Ministers shared the diversity of their Mystical and Religious Experiences. The Annual Journal for 2007-2008 will explore some Unitarian Universalist "Views of the Afterlife."

The UU Psi Symposium has been criticized as an "organization that fosters exploration of a particular theology, perspective or subject." Contrary to this mistaken perception, Psi Symposium openly explores and embraces the whole spectrum of spiritual, mystical, religious and paranormal experiences as reported by humanity. We do not limit our interests to any single "human experience," for example, to the Near Death Experience. The NDE is but one of the many, many "psi" topics that we explore.

Consistent with this perspective, the Psi Symposium also respects the cultural diversity of the philosophical and theological languages that have evolved to describe these various spiritual, mystical and paranormal experiences. We are not bound by nor are we limited to any particular denominational creed or orthodox system. Within our membership a wide range of perspectives have coexisted and intermingled: theist and humanist, agnostic and atheist, pagan and mystic, and UU Buddhist, Christian, and Jewish views.

A final consideration: The Unitarian Universalist Psi Symposium's pursuit of spiritual growth passionately includes the ethical ideal of love. Love of truth, beauty and goodness. Love of planet Earth. Love of self. Love of neighbor. Our commitment: To translate our practice of love into (1) honoring the inherent worth and dignity of every person; (2) pursuing justice, equity and compassion in human relations; (3) respecting the right of conscience and using the democratic process; (4) seeking the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all; and (5) respecting the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The UU Psi Symposium seeks to create, to heal and to empower ourselves and others. We seek to become persons of love and understanding. Although we are not an activist organization in the ordinary sense, we are passionate about pursuing our spiritual goal – an integration of ethical and unitive consciousness. Our intention: To balance the pursuit of truth and the practice of love as we participate interdependently in the matrix of our Unitarian Universalist community.

Thank you for considering our reapplication for Independent Affiliate Status.

Created and Approved by the Officers and Board of Directors of the UU Psi Symposium:

Maslow Predicted The Shift by Owen Waters

Abraham Maslow (1908-70) was a psychologist who became famous for his hierarchy of human needs. When he developed his theory in the 1950s, he predicted the transformation of humanity into a realm of spiritual transcendence, but he had no idea just how soon this would develop into a major movement. Maslow's hierarchy of human needs shows that basic human needs have to be fulfilled before people can attend to higher needs and values.

First, the basic physiological needs of food and shelter must be catered for in order to ensure survival.

Second, once food and shelter are obtained, safety and security must be achieved.

Third, acceptance by others is sought, in both the social and romantic senses. To fulfill this 'belonging' need, people become part of a group, a tribe, an extended family or a community.

When these deficiency, or outer-directed, needs are satisfied, then the individual works to acquire self-respect. Recognition by others produces self-esteem. Once the outer needs are fulfilled, the inner-directed need for self-actualization comes into play. To self-actualize means to become the best you personally can be. Self-actualized people include those who have achieved material abundance, and also those who, as a decision of personal power, have chosen simplicity over the pursuit of further abundance. At some point, when a person says "That's enough" to the endless pursuit of additional financial security, then they become free to accomplish anything that inspires their inner joy the most. Self-actualization is achieved after the individual ceases to have deference to hierarchical authority, and instead matures into the ability to make their own rules of personal responsibility. Personal responsibility is always more powerful and effective than any system of imposed rules.

For example, you can threaten to punish someone if they steal and hope that the threat works. But, a self-responsible person simply wouldn't steal because they would feel empathy for the loss that a would-be victim would feel. They simply wouldn't have the heart to do such a thing to another person. It's a matter of increased maturity. When a person abandons the impositions of external authority and becomes their own, self-directed authority, then they become far more functional in the world. This is, in fact, a higher state of consciousness, one which provides a higher vista of awareness. From this expanded vista, they see clearly how they as an individual can best serve humanity.

In this state of awareness, the person acquires the ability to think and analyze situations independently. As a result, new and creative solutions spring to mind. They have enough self-esteem to be able to clearly see their own needs, skills, strengths and weaknesses, and from that they see where they can best be of service to humanity. Once basic needs are fulfilled, the next values to

require attention relate to being. The first of these being-values is self-actualization, which is the instinctual need of a human to make the most of their unique abilities.

Above that, Maslow placed transcendence, which he considered a spiritual value. Traditional universities typically presume that spiritual matters are beyond the understanding of their students, so they present the Maslow hierarchy of human needs differently. They present it with self-actualization as the ultimate human goal, and omit the transcendence stage beyond that.

The being-values of self-actualization and transcendence are the higher, more beautiful aspects of human consciousness. They include unconditional love, altruism, inner joy, a love of nature, the development of intuition (in males as well as females), idealism, and a sense of wisdom which springs from within. These skills develop the right-brain functions of creativity and intuition.

In the 1950s, Maslow believed that only 2% of the population had achieved self-actualization.

The mid-1960s changed all that when masses of people began the search for the higher values, such as unconditional love and spiritual wisdom. Today, that core group of progressive society has blossomed from 2% to over 20%, and is climbing every year.

The Shift is not a temporary by-product of the baby boom generation, or any other generation of modern society. It is not a passing fad. It is not going away. It is a cosmic pressure that is unfolding and relentlessly increasing the frequency of all consciousness upon the planet. It is a part of the plan of Infinite Being that we progress to the next stage of conscious human achievement.

The Shift is, to put it simply, the most wonderful transformation in recorded history. This is where humanity gets to build, literally, Heaven on Earth.

This article was written by Owen Waters, author of "The Shift: The Revolution in Human Consciousness" The Infinite Being newsletter brings you spiritual insights for the New Awareness each Sunday at your request from Infinite Being Publishing LLC, 73 Greentree Dr #54, Dover DE 19904, USA, 302-269-3852.

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