



# DIALOGUE: REDISCOVER THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONVERSATION

*Linda Ellinor, Glenna Gerard*

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Originally published in 1998 by John Wiley & Sons, this book offers insights, skills, and suggestions for how to introduce David Bohm's proposal of Dialogue into organizational contexts. In 1990 Peter Senge called Dialogue a key leadership tool for promoting team learning and fostering shared meaning, and community. The insights and skills offered in Dialogue: Discover the transforming power of conversation are just as relevant today as they were in 1998 or 1798 and will be far into the future. By republishing this book as an ebook, the material will now be more easily available.

How do we, as members of a global human family engage the questions of global climate change, poverty, growing income inequality, wars, etc.? These are complex systemic issues with viewpoints becoming increasingly polarized. Many feel that the world is more divided and fragmented than ever.

Dialogue is a way of connecting across such gaps of meaning; of listening, of speaking and being deeply heard and respected, building the trust that fosters people talking across positions and beliefs. New portals can then open for seeing beyond the levels of thinking that created the problems in the first place.

Dialogue leads to new possibilities and hope for a vital future.

Linda Ellinor and Glenna Gerard, co-founders of The Dialogue Group, collectively draw upon 50+ years of experience in multiple contexts ranging from corporations, education, and government, to personal and professional coaching. While the strategies in this book are focused on business contexts, they can help anyone to:

- Develop trust building skills to speak about 'undiscussable' issues that block creativity, learning, effectiveness and satisfaction
- Build strong and vital agreements that foster shared responsibility, collaboration, and accountability
- Open doors to new and innovative ways of thinking and problem solving –See the roots of recurring problems' and make different choices moving forward
- Reawaken and vitalize meaning, satisfaction and inspiration in all relationships, personal and professional.

The Dialogue Group [www.thedialoguegroup.net](http://www.thedialoguegroup.net), is a consulting firm, with two private retreat centers, specializing in training and application of interpersonal communication skills for collaboration, full system engagement, innovation and strategic systemic thinking. A partial list of organizational clients include Boeing, 3COM, Silicon Graphics Inc., Levi Strauss & Company, University of San Diego, The Fetzer Institute, and The American Cancer Society.

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