# The Maternal Gifting Paradigm: From Education to Global Economy

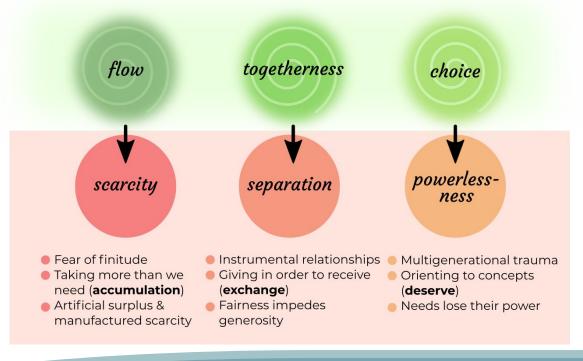
### The Maternal Gifting Paradigm



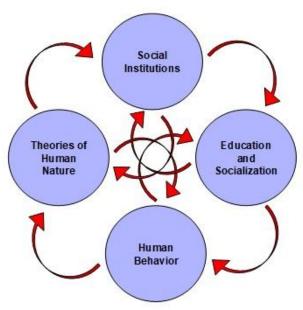
## The Maternal Gifting Paradigm

- "We are a mothering species" Genevieve Vaughan
- Unilateral receiving is needed to reach adulthood
- In matricentric societies, everyone mothers
- Mothering is an orientation towards others' needs
- Gifting is a flow linked to trust in life

## The patriarchal paradigm: scarcity, separation, and powerlessness



## Marshall Rosenberg on how social orders reproduce themselves



### Maternal gifting societies

- **Social systems**: reproducing flow through aligning with life's flows, orienting to needs, and leaning on natural authority
- Education and socialization: reproducing choice through integrating young people into the community based on needs
- Human behavior: reproducing togetherness through ongoing collaboration and integrative decision making
- "The Story": providing the glue and justification of everything through seeing humans as caring stewards of the whole

## Capitalist patriarchal societies

- Social systems: reproducing scarcity through competition, private ownership, control, differential rules
- Education and socialization: reproducing powerlessness through obedience, shaming, and enclosure
- Human behavior: reproducing separation as hyper-autonomy, denial of choice, judgments
- "The Story": providing the glue and justification of everything through seeing humans as greedy and selfish

## Pathways for change

- Social systems: Collective action to change how decisions are made through nonviolent resistance and constructive program
- Education and socialization: Supporting the next generation, with humility, to reduce the gap between current reality and vision
- **Human behavior**: relearning choice within togetherness, needs-based resource flow, collaborative leadership. ...
- "The Story": Telling stories to restore vision and trust and show the gap

#### Lessons from educational giants

- From knowledge consumption to knowledge co-creation
- From control and power over to natural authority
- From standardized curriculum to needs-based learning
- From obedience to critical thinking
- From shaming to deep self-trust
- From discipline to love as the foundation of teaching

## Aligning education with maternal gifting and life - #1

- Orienting to needs as antidoting the either/or of forcing or "free for all"
- Willingness as antidoting the reproduction of the social order through obedience
- The capacity lens as antidoting shaming and judgment
- Mutual feedback as antidoting the banking model

## Aligning education with maternal gifting and life - #2

- Trust in life as antidoting control
- Learning within life as antidoting abstraction
- Full collaboration as antidoting age segregation
- Intrinsic motivation as antidoting performance
- Engaging with the gap as antidoting modern denial

#### NGL as a case study: Seeding a liberation university #1

- Integrating liberation into everything we do, e.g.:
  - From doing clerical tasks to liberation logistics
  - From behavior management to empowerment clinics
  - From project management to project stewardship
  - Weaving "liberation for all" through all we do
  - In planning: all ages collaboration (3 spaces with children)

#### NGL as a case study: Seeding a liberation university #2

- Everything is done as research and "experiments with truth"
  - Researching ourselves; no subjects and objects of research
  - Orienting research to closing the gap with vision
  - Making public everything we discover
  - Developing a lab format for accelerated learning

#### NGL as a case study: the Financial Gift Hub

- Asking for money: we offer everything as a gift and make our needs known without paywalls or charging
- We have no bosses, employees, board, or legal existence
- Money is distributed every 4 months based on needs
  - ~ 10 are fully dependent on this money; ~ 20 more partially
  - Last time we distributed about \$150,000
  - We each name our material needs with support from others to engage with conditioning
  - We attend to nonmaterial needs without using money
  - We are working on designing even more distributed decision making processes

## Aligning global resource flow with maternal gifting - #1

- Making information available and accessible
  - From effective demands to needs
  - From externalized costs to actual impacts
  - From accumulation and waste to making resources available

## Aligning global resource flow with maternal gifting - #2

- Choice within togetherness
  - Self definition of needs
  - Staying within capacity and willingness

## Aligning global resource flow with maternal gifting - #3

- Distributed, collaborative decision making
  - Matching resources to needs as locally as possible
  - Attending to essential needs before anyone gets more
  - Collaborating in the face of finitude

#### Small group topics

- #1: Real exploration: identifying learning needs within a project and how to develop a curriculum in response
- #2: Simulation: creating a shared purpose with three students who just want a degree
- #3: Economics: How to distribute medicine that is in short supply in the absence of money
- #4: Integration: sharing learning insights and application ideas