

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Relational leadership and practice: why connection and love are the basis for radical change

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Abstract

The world faces an unprecedented set of environment and climate crises; current leadership has failed to adequately respond. The call for a new worldview and leadership to be practiced is becoming more insistent especially from women.

Leadership has traditionally been seen as masculine, heroic and individual and normative reinforcing self-reliance, assertiveness and competition. These qualities reinforce power structures that underpin unchecked inequality, environmental destruction, marginalization of diverse voices and weakening of democracy.

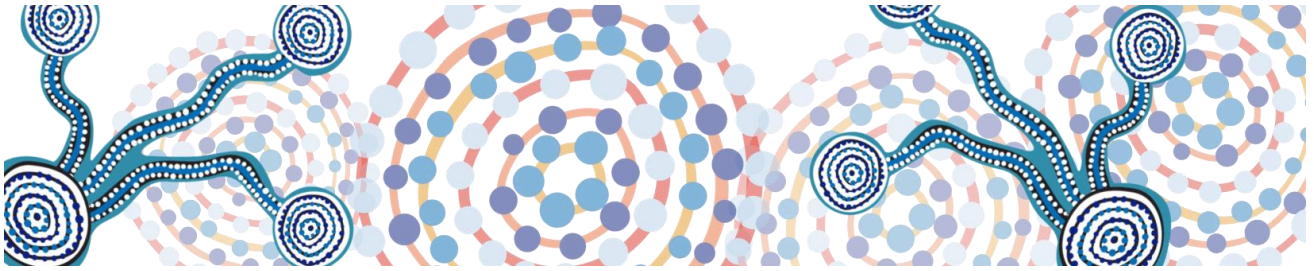
A new worldview based on the quality of our relationships with ourselves, in communities and with the natural world is needed to address our deep challenges. This workshop will help to develop the language we need to share and practice a relational worldview. It will explore the characteristics of relational leadership and relational practices in our organisations, partnerships and programs.

International evidence indicates that more women in decision-making leadership roles ensures more effective workplaces and better environmental and social outcomes. Despite this information women remain under represented across government and business sectors in leadership positions and the leadership style practiced in most organisations continues to follow more traditional norms of behaviour and practice.

Understanding the need for a different kind of relational leadership and practice, why such leadership and practice is more effective and the barriers to it being taken up across organisations will lead to increased confidence in participants, both male and female, to become relational leaders and practitioners.

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge the First Nation people of Australia and first nations across the globe practice a relational worldview. It is the basis of respectful, loving, sustainable, nurturing and creative relationships required for both survival and satisfaction.



Speaker Profile

Louise is a leading sustainability practitioner, facilitator and change maker with thirty years experience in relational leadership and practice. She is currently lead facilitator for the Women's Environmental Leadership Australia program. She has implemented numerous regional sustainability and environmental initiatives that have contributed to major behavioural changes. Louise lives with her partner on an intentional ecological community South Coast WA. She is a Director of Gondwana Link Ltd, Director DecoLiving Pty Ltd. She works part time both as senior projects Manager at Green Skills an organisation she founded in 1989 and executive officer for the WA Landcare Network.

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