SACRED COWS BEWARE!

In The Passionate Mind Revisited Joel Kramer and Diana Alstad offer a radical new way to see ourselves and the world.

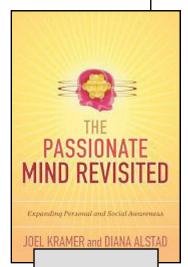
In *The Passionate Mind Revisited: Expanding Personal and Social Awareness* (North Atlantic Books, July 2009, Trade Paper) Joel Kramer and Diana Alstad invite us on a liberating journey toward a deeper understanding of how our minds function and challenge us to make an honest and fearless examination of our most deep-seated beliefs and the worldviews that underlie them.

In this total revision of Kramer's 1974 classic, *The Passionate Mind*, the authors take on Eastern and Western spirituality and scientific materialism to give us a synthesized worldview that is more reflective of the complexity of our world and more relevant to the challenges we face. And the challenges are great. "We are a species at risk," they say, and assert that what has brought us to the brink of environmental, economic, and social collapse is our unwillingness to critically examine our beliefs, worldviews, values, and conditioning. They argue that we can and must embark on a path of conscious social evolution if we are to create a more humane and viable world.

In this sweeping work Kramer and Alstad extend the inner inquiry of *The Passionate Mind* to the social arena and global concerns. They offer original insights on the most fundamental human experiences and impulses, including love, pleasure, desire, fear, and freedom. They also take a unique stance on time, meditation, evolution, and the control mechanisms that are ever-present in human endeavors. *The Passionate Mind Revisited* is a profound inquiry into our nature, what brought us to this historic cusp, and what can make us viable.

Here's just some of what Kramer and Alstad have to say:

- · WE ARE A SOCIAL ANIMAL WHO HASN'T ADEQUATELY LEARNED HOW TO BE SOCIAL
- EGO CANNOT BE ELIMINATED, BUT WE CAN MAKE IT WORK BETTER FOR US AND THE PLANET
- WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE CRUCIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOVE AND CARE: LOVE IS PERSONAL, BUT CARE CAN EXTEND TO THE GLOBAL
- OUR MINDS ARE NOT THE PROBLEM—OUR MINDSETS ARE
- QUESTIONING OUR BELIEFS CAN HELP US BECOME BETTER BELIEVERS
- THE "NOW" WON'T HAVE A FUTURE UNLESS WE TAKE THE FUTURE INTO ACCOUNT NOW
- THE QUESTION ISN'T HOW TO "BE HERE NOW," BUT WHICH NOW ARE YOU IN—PERSONAL, SOCIAL, OR GLOBAL?
- "POSSIBILISM" FREES YOU FROM UNREALISTIC OPTIMISM AND DEADLY PESSIMISM
- ALTRUISM AND EGOTISM ARE NOT NECESSARILY OPPOSITES, AND THE MORE WE EVOLVE SOCIALLY THE LESS THEY WILL BE
- OUR COMPETITIVE AND COOPERATIVE ASPECTS CAN BECOME PARTNERS INSTEAD OF COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER
- INSTEAD OF MORE DETACHMENT, HUMANITY NEEDS BETTER FORMS OF ATTACHMENT



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