

PSYCHOLOGY FOR HEART AND SOUL

The joy of gender

Robert Sardello



There may be some importance during this time of much opening and expansion in the realms of gender to work through confusions, reactions, attractions, repulsions, closed-mindedness, naivety, eagerness, pain, discovery, fear, desire, longing and come to some kind of clarity, self-discovered.

The central reality being opened does not involve physical form, but rather the nature of love between individuals. That form has 'loosened' in its significance must mean that love is revealing itself more intensely and independently of male and female form, and equally independently of the soul distinctions of masculine and feminine.

Love is autonomous. It goes wherever it is needed. It has little to do with our personality, backgrounds, learning, religion, social forms or psychologies. Entry into such arenas is entirely secondary. It is love that is first and primary. What is love doing these days can be a helpful way of reframing our wonder regarding gender.

Love and truth are the two aspects of our most inner being. Love is to truth as money is to the world. An apt comparison, for in a completely materialistic world, love has no place, truth has no place. Not autonomous love, over which we have no control. 'Love' as attraction, as emotion, as attachment, as sex, is the plaything of materialistic culture, and wondrously, the autonomy of love has completely thwarted being trapped.

Love goes where it is needed, and it is revolutionizing the human being, the place where it is most needed. What 'I' want does not matter. What 'I' think does not matter – one cannot decide to love, love happens, love comes, love announces itself. Rationality in love only goes so far as manipulating pleasure, or in driving love away through cultural speed and work. But love finds a way anyway.

The undeniable autonomy of love questions our greatest confusion with it – thinking that 'we do it'. Such 'love' – 'I love you' cannot be autonomous love, but only self-centered love, which is need and attachment. When, without awareness, I simply say, and feel, 'I love you', we are actually saying 'I love myself'. The challenge love may be posing to us these days is how to be true to love itself.

Notes on contributor

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