

SUPPORTING THE CONSCIOUS FEMININE

**Bringing Kindness and Right Relationship
Life**

into Everyday

By Margi Ross

The Conscious Feminine is about bringing the kindness, compassion and common sense that is innate in women and the Feminine Principle into everyday life.

What would this look like? Here are some key ideas which can help us support the Feminine:

1. Giving a Middle Ground to Feminine Aspects of Life for the First Time.

Before something can be accepted as a part of society, it has to have language and a conceptual framework: then sanity can replace chaos and confusion. The Conscious Feminine is about differentiating areas of life which have not been sorted before and giving them a middle ground and a human voice. As we do this, the world will gradually become a safer and kinder place in which to live. i.e. There is a psychological law that has been explained in Greek drama and mythology: it is that when we don't obey the laws of relationship, the Furies get angry. The Furies are the ancient instinctive outrage, which tell us when these laws have been broken: it is easy to see the Furies expressing in individuals and on a world level. The conscious woman can speak for the concerns of the Furies in a human way and mediate between the old instinctive reaction and people in the external world. She uses her Feminine soul, supported by her Feminine ego to give voice, in a human way, to the concerns of the Furies. I'm doing this as I write this article. We do this whenever we stand in our own feminine authority and speak for the needs of the heart and relationship and the body in any situation. *This is a huge development in and of the Feminine Principle of immense importance. Imagine what would happen if the instinctive reaction were humanised and the peace that would come to the world.*

2. The Jungian Concept of the Feeling Function.

Jung discovered that each person has a superior function and that each function equates with an element. The Four Functions are Feeling (water), Thinking (air), Sensation (earth), and Intuition (fire). Water and earth are, by tradition, feminine elements. Feeling is a rational function and orders relationship.

The superior function is a place where we are very skilled and where we feel at home. The feeling type has an ability to notice and care for the small details in relationship. This ability is available even when under stress: they put relationship first.

The needs of the feeling type are not included in our culture and school is not designed to meet their needs. The same could be said about the sensation type and function. Each function brings sanity and clarity to an area of life and trouble occurs when there is a 'take over' by people who do not possess expertise in that area. i.e.

Sensation types often notice when a disaster is about to occur with something in the material world: this can be a ship, a car, a boat, etc. They go to their boss to express their concerns, he/she is a different type, so cannot really understand the need for action, or he/she can be the same type but not have integrity. The person is not taken seriously and disaster often occurs.

3. Including Feminine Values and Concerns in Education.

We can see how unbalanced the energy is in schools. Children are not taught to be kind and polite, or to care for each other or what to do if someone is injured or in need. They don't have to pass exams in these subjects yet they are far more important than most subjects taught in schools and as important as learning to read and write. What is the point of having superb exam results if you aren't kind and considerate to other living creatures and you don't understand the need for boundaries and protection? If women were supporting feminine consciousness they would insist on feminine values being part of the curriculum. *Think of the power of individuals who are kind and considerate and the peace and healing they bring about during their lifetime.*

Another key concept is 'standing for the soul'. What I mean is standing for the experiencer, who lives in the body, the invisible but present being in each form. The fate of the anima or soul in a woman has been to carry a man's projection of his own inner feminine, but with the Conscious Feminine, the soul can move in life and have a voice and bring softness and gentleness into life. Men are sometimes open to the experience of the depth and sensitivity of the feminine in the bedroom; both men and women have to open themselves to this in life. Life is getting faster and faster because the feminine side of the psyche does not have the support She needs: if we give the Feminine support, every being will eventually feel easier

To the conscious woman the ends seldom justify the means and people and animals are not expendable. The Feminine makes us ask *'how will this person or animal feel if we do this'?* This should be part of every institution's values. Feminine Law then becomes a part of life, and safety can come in. The Feminine makes us take responsibility for the inter-relationship of all life.

A good man will of course be acting from the heart, but a good conscious woman who is confident of her perceptions will notice small, sometimes lifesaving details, which a man would probably not notice. i.e. If you are a consultant in a hospital and are leaving, it's really important to let your patients know that you are going. Some consultants do communicate, but such considerations *are not built into the practice of medicine.* It is such a shock, especially if you are seriously ill, to discover that your consultant has left and it can cause so much distress.

The way people and societies develop, on a spiritual and psychological level, is to first have structure and an ego and then, when they are ready and want to, they contact their soul and grow into manifesting their soul. Humanity in general is ready to do this and Feminine Consciousness has a key part to play in bringing the soul into life. Every living being needs love, kindness and safety and life can be ordered to meet these needs.

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The Conscious Feminine in Action

By Sheila Broderick

We live in a world where Masculine values predominate. Masculine values are linear, exclusive, hierarchical and divisive. Feminine values are inclusive, non-hierarchical and based on individual experience. This does not mean that they are wishy-washy, naive or inferior. What they are is seeing, thinking, feeling and experiencing life from a different perspective.

Many people are literally and metaphorically dying for lack of Feminine Consciousness. The reality that women and some men experience is regarded as less important. It is only when women become empowered that they will stand for their own values.

I would like to give some examples of how the Conscious Feminine operates in different ways from Masculine Consciousness.

Mind over Matter:

This implies that the Mind is better than Matter – it is often applied to the body – if you think your way through pain this is seen as an achievement. Whilst it might be important to do this sometimes, the fact that this belief exists without the opposite, Matter over Mind being equally prevalent, means that there is no balance. It means that there is no choice for people when they are approaching problems concerning their body and mind. The body (as Matter) is regarded as inferior – the mind knows better/more than the body. It is rare for someone to ask: “What is your body telling you to do?” – “What does your body need?” Indeed lots of people act as if they do not have a body other than as a vehicle to carry around their mind, to have sex or to be dissatisfied with.

A better, more feminine way, would be to allow Matter *and* Mind; this would mean that the body is of equal importance and for some people more important than the mind. Listening to the body would not result in people being lazy or living purely for pleasure or whatever the Masculine Consciousness fears. It would mean a reverence and respect for the wisdom of physical matter and living life from that as a given.

The lack of relating to the reality of human beings’ bodies accounts for the way animals are treated: as secondary, lesser creatures to be dealt with, in any way humans think fit – even if that includes ultimately doing damage to themselves as has happened through the mistreatment of farm animals in feeding them antibiotics and making cannibals of animals who are herbivores.

Mind over Matter has also led to the way that the Masculine has defined what is Spiritual – the majority of approaches to spirituality – whether traditional or new age, are transcendent. The physical body has been interpreted as bad: a vehicle for temptation and something to be ‘got rid of’. This has taken many forms, through

fasting, flagellation or transcending the body through thought and meditation. The way to 'enlightenment' is to sacrifice and moderate the needs of being human. A feminine approach to spirituality incorporates the experience of being human, including being incarnate in a body. This would be an appreciation of the wisdom that comes from the Depths.

Another aspect of Masculine Consciousness is that we have become perfectionists in as much as we think we have to be articulate and be out of touch with our emotional/physical experience before we speak. There is very little room for finding out what you need to say whilst actually speaking – the Masculine **judges** and holds up to scrutiny the acceptability of what is spoken: it can be merciless. Some of the time I work in a hospital and my job brings me into contact with women who are receiving treatment. Time and time again I hear women say 'I know this sounds stupid ' and then they go on to ask either a profound question or something that really matters to them. All the time people are silenced because they cannot ask or say what they need to. This is so injurious to individuals and to us as a whole because we end up living falsely and feeling like we are wrong. People collude with the Masculine Consciousness despite the reality of their lives and how uncomfortable they are about turning themselves inside out to conform to values that do not fit. They think *they* are wrong, not the 'system' in which they live. Living in a Conscious Feminine way would alter this – there would be an appreciation of experience, the knowledge and confidence that this is a valuable place to speak from.

Finally, this morning a woman, who I supervise, was telling me about an Organisation that is working in a person centred way with people who have learning disabilities. She went on to say how the statutory authorities expect the organisation to classify and evaluate the work according to outcomes and targets. This is a contradiction – it is not possible to work in a feminine, person centred way and then judge it by masculine criteria. It is the masculine criteria that need to change. All too often experience must fit theory – theory is seen as good, experience is only valuable if it fits the theory. Evaluating from a Feminine perspective would put experience first.

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Maria Callas: Singing for the Feminine

by Margi Ross

When Callas was alive, there was much controversy about her singing: even when she was at the height of her powers. People loved the depth and expressiveness, the sorrow that was innate in her sound, but it wasn't perfect by masculine standards. Here indeed was a great voice and a very beautiful woman, but heard in relation to other great singers, such as Renate Tebaldi, who was the other leading soprano of the time, her voice was sometimes labelled as 'ugly'.

The True Feminine, which Callas was able to give a voice to, is never perfect by masculine standards, because the Feminine is an equal and opposite reality. The Feminine is perfect by Her own standards and the quality inherent in Her sound are attributes such as depth, truth, compassion, sorrow, inclusiveness, boldness, darkness (in a positive sense), feminine light, rage, transcendence. The Spiritual Feminine is both immanent and transcendent, so transcendence is not only a masculine attribute.

So, why does masculine creativity, both bad and good, dominate our culture? Let's go to the myth of Gaia and Uranus. In this story of creation, Gaia, the Earth, came from Chaos. Gaia had a son called Uranus and then mother and son mated and gave birth to the Titans. Uranus hated his children and shut them up in the depths of the earth. Gaia was furious and asked her children to help her avenge the wrong that had been done. Only Cronus (Saturn) agreed and he castrated Uranus. When his genitals were thrown into the sea Aphrodite was born: when the blood from his wound touched the earth, the Furies came forth.

What does this tell us about Callas and Feminine Creativity? If we are going to create for the Feminine we must not listen to the negative aspects of Uranus, and the negative masculine in general, *or else we will not value what we have created*. The myth tells us about the psychological level of the hatred that is innate between masculine and feminine approaches to life and form. The Mother Principle can hold and support the idea of a form that is not perfect. *She is trying for something else which is far more beautiful than the masculine idea of the perfect form and all Her creations are 'perfect'. She holds the soul.*

On a psychological level Uranus is the collective masculine pressure for perfection. When anything is not held by a strong human middle ground negative archetypal forces can come in. We can see how this archetype has dominated the idea of how the feminine physical body should be. Like a boy with boobs and the face of a baby: being a woman is not fashionable.

The philosopher Plato produced the idea that everything first existed as the 'perfect idea in the mind of God' and this was of course a masculine God. We don't look at trees and judge them as more or less perfect, why do this with other forms of Feminine Creation?

In the first part of the last century a woman called Alice Bailey had the job of writing down some new spiritual information for us. According to the Alice Bailey Teachings, there are seven different ray energies which express through and in people and other forms of life: Ray 1 is Will, Ray 2 is Love-Wisdom, Ray 3 is Active Intelligence, the Holy Spirit. Ray 4 is Art and Harmony through Conflict, Ray 5 is

Concrete Science, Ray 6 is Devotion and Ray 7 is Ceremonial Magic. Ray 1 is the equivalent to God the Father, in the Christian tradition, Ray 2 to God the Son and Ray 3 to the Mother Principle, God the Holy Ghost, or Spirit. Everyone has a spirit, a soul and a personality and as we evolve we are gradually able to express more and more of our soul and our soul is expressive of our spirit. The spirit, the highest aspect of a person can be Feminine or Masculine, as can their soul.

Callas had a 3rd Ray soul****. People often associate 3rd Ray energy, the Mother Principle, with matter and consequently assume that spirit is masculine and matter is feminine but behind matter is spirit, the Feminine Spirit. The names for Her change from one age and culture to another. She has been called, Nut, Isis 3rd Ray energy is a name for the Aquarian Age. On the level of the soul, 3rd Ray energy is expressive of the compassion of the Mother, *the eternal beauty and compassion that has always existed but is now becoming manifest. Thus, through the spiritual aspects of the Feminine, expressing through individuals and supported by the Holy Spirit, Her nurturing, caring and humanising compassion can come into every walk of life. It will take some time, but it will come in.*

In Callas's singing, one of the things that is so exceptional is the range of expression of the different aspects of the Feminine. She truly has the dark, the light and the middle ground integrated. Very few people have that sort of movement integrated in their lives. This is because it is a problem inherent within the Feminine and it is through human effort that the contrasting aspects are reconciled.

With the recordings of Callas some of the best are those that show this range of expression. The music of Bellini and Spontini was perhaps best suited to her voice because there was the opportunity to hear her express both the delicacy of soul, and the power of the Mother Principle. *

The pure sorrow of the soul is best heard in Puccini's music. In the radio play 'Spoonface Steinberg' by Lee Hall, all the recordings played were by Callas. The voice of sorrow was also the voice of hope, and this was also the message of the play. **

In Erich Neumann's book 'The Great Mother', in the chapter on spiritual development, he describes how the highest achievement of the Feminine is the birth of Feminine Light. *** Callas shone with this light.

To carry this light in the world we have to make a drastic separation out of a masculine system with masculine values and create our own structure to hold this light of compassion for what can be and will be. The Old Feminine is based in biology and male-female attraction and love for an individual man and physical children, the highest aspects of the Feminine are based in parthenogenesis (the ability of the Feminine to give birth from itself without help from a male): to give birth to a totally different Light, which balances the Masculine Light, then peace can come to the world and the World Heart can at last find Her place consciously in life.

* Callas recordings: Bellini: I Puritani.
Bellini: La Sonnambula.
Spontini: La Vestale.

** Lee Hall: Spoonface Steinberg. Available on cassette from the BBC. A play about a child who is dying from cancer. It was later made into a television play.

*** Erich Neumann: The Great Mother. Princeton University Press.

**** See list in book by Benjamin Creme: Maitreya's Mission. Vol 1. Share International Foundation.

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HOLDING THE FEMININE AND THE NEED FOR RELATIONSHIP IN A TRANSITION

by Margi Ross

For some time now I have been aware of a lack of support for the Feminine when a transition is reached in therapy. Transition is a crisis point of love and relationship. Can they hold? In any transition we can see how much we can hold the reality of love, and how much we betray. This is to some extent conditioned by the society and the times we live in.

As we go into the Aquarian age, we have to have new thought-forms which can support relationship through even the most difficult of transitions. The move from the Piscean age to that of Aquarius requires that we have a consciousness of relationship.

I remember the scene in the film 'Braveheart', just before William Wallace is executed, when he looks at the child in the crowd and the child looks at him. The opposite sign to Aquarius is Leo, the sign of the soul and the child. Unless we have the heart and courage to see the slaughter and the love, we cannot stop evil occurring. The power people at present have the voice; the will to power has a voice and not the will to love and relate. I'd like to stop the attempted slaughter of myself and others, which is brought about by aspects of the personal and collective psyche which are as yet, unknown. I have been forced to ask, why do these things happen?

The spiritual will of our time is that we share and have Brotherhood or Sisterhood and that we co-operate. Yet the wounds, which we all have, can energise hatred and vengeance and put even the deepest connections and the most skilled work at risk of destruction.

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At present, we only have masculine thought-forms to describe and give a language to experience. Spiritually and psychologically, the realm of relationship comes under the jurisdiction of the Feminine. Most people come into therapy because relationship has failed them. The parts of their psyches, which can support relationship, are injured and they need healing. If the therapist is good at relating, all will go well until the place of transition.

At transition, the person will want to connect to his or her own instinctive knowledge. Purely reductive and collective views on separation say that at this transition, a natural break occurs. The client connects with their own instincts, starts to 'hate their mother' and they leave. Some therapists believe that the client will eventually come back into relationship with them. This could be called a mother and child view of therapy and separation, which unconsciously tries to keep the relationship on an unequal basis. It does not take account for the reality of the soul, or the adult-to-adult relationship, which is present throughout therapy.

It is also a very masculine view of separation. A man has to make a much more drastic 'leaving' of mother in order to form an ego and go out into the world as a man.

A woman has to stay in relationship with the feminine and the people she loves *and find* her individuality.

If the therapist is working on a soul level and healing relationship through being in relationship with the client then she/he needs relationship to be honoured. The detailed meeting of need, which has occurred over many years as well as the relationship itself, needs protection. If the client or therapist thinks concretely at the time of separation, because there is no other way of thinking, then much damage to both parties can occur.

How does the early development of love and will proceed when the soul is involved?

The early stages of therapy require a meeting of need, which is much to do with mirroring and holding grief, and with the early wounds to love. If the client is someone who is here to serve relationship, at a time when relationship itself is virtually completely undifferentiated, their will have been more or less completely repressed. If the good therapist is proceeding with love and an open system, which is the only system which can heal the wounds to love, sometime or later she is bound to 'make a mistake' which the repressed will of the client will seize on. This is often when the therapist is attacked and the work 'rubbished'. After all, all life wants to live and the psyche will see this is an opportunity for healing. However, this will be a profound shock to both the client and the therapist, although it may not be acknowledged.

What is really needed at this time is a new consciousness of this process, which both client and therapist can hold. Ideally, the client needs to stay in therapy, in order to heal both love and will. Maybe this transitional stage needs to be called by a new name, for if the relationship is to hold, both client and therapist need to be open to change. In order for this stage to work, power has to be given up. There are no thought forms or a system which can hold this stage at present, and masculine thought forms come in. Sometimes the client will suddenly leave. The brain is made in a way that it has to make sense of things. So it will use what it can. *Thus it uses thought and language which are inaccurate and which usually derogate the work that the therapist and client have done.* This is a very dangerous place because:

1. The client cannot proceed forward without power. But if the relationship with love is injured and given up for power, the development of the client is delayed. Sometimes the client is so wounded on a soul level that it focuses the person on love and the pain of loss when they were just about to get the power to express their love. Then both love and will are wounded. The therapist and client are separated by a gulf of wordless grief. Both project, and fear takes over. Sometimes they project the Terrible Mother and Father onto each other, sometimes only one party does this. There is no consciousness and great wounds are caused to the soul, spirit and body of the human beings involved. This is when masculine thought forms come in which tell us this is how it has to be. I believe it can be different.

2. The therapist is a spiritual being, so is the client. I would say, as Alice Bailey * says, we are all solar angels. It is my belief and a basic premise of the way I work as a therapist that I never identify anyone with a part of their self: the Self and the essential goodness of the human being is always the reference point and from this

place I can safely work with the inferior or blocked parts of the psyche without treating the client as an inferior or bad person. It has always been a great shock to me that people whom I have always treated with respect and love can so easily scapegoat me at a certain point in transition. Again, I have been forced to ask, why?

DISTORTIONS OF 7TH RAY ENERGY

The energy which can change relationship is blocked and when it comes to the surface, it expresses in the only way it can. If people were conscious of this, so much misunderstanding could be avoided. It is the energy of Uranus which can help bring about Right Relationship. It is also very present at the 1st Initiation (see the Alice Bailey teachings), because it relates different aspects of the person that have not been in relationship before.

7th Ray energy is not very pretty as it emerges, but without it having its say, the creation of right relationship cannot proceed. The Feminine, and those who serve Her, are going through a process of empowerment and the release of this power makes for great volatility...

I'm aware that as I write this I wish for an understanding of my heart. I'm aware of masculine thought-forms which say that, at Initiation, often people have to go their own way. This is sometimes true but *how* they go their own way is what matters. I believe with all my heart that we have to find a way to relate. If we don't, the injuries to the relating side of the psyche are not healed and projection occurs. If people can't relate they can only resort to despair, survival, power without love or simply getting on with their life and ignoring the inner wounds. The unconscious client with Moon square Saturn may accuse the therapist of being cold and not meeting their needs, as will the unconscious therapist with similar aspects accuse the client of 'having problems with relating.'

What I wish for is a place where consciousness can exist when there is a crisis. Where the people involved can sit with each other and listen to each other's truth: *then a consciousness of relationship can be born.*

Every time there is a crisis, with anger and projection, an opportunity for consciousness, and for more understanding and healing is lost. What I have seen, time and time again, is this moment being lost, because there is not the will for it to be otherwise.

For some time now, there have been groups where the reality of the personality can be expressed. What is needed are places and safety, where the reality of the soul and the spirit and the body can be expressed and held and the grief of the wounds can be heard and healed.

If we don't understand the reality of the soul and the soul's need to relate, the soul's expression and service can be held up, and this has repercussions for the individual and the world.

EARTH

If Uranus and 7th ray energy is tied into the earth in the birth chart, the person has great ability to change structure and the way people, animals, and all life are treated. Uranus first has to be released and then castrated. This castration of Uranus is when his discriminative power is no longer used to say what is wrong with people but is used to differentiate feminine truth within. It is a natural part of spiritual development to go through the phase when Uranus sees what is wrong and the person talks a lot and blames. However, this is also dangerous, as much damage is done, because Uranus picks up the shadow. (Be particularly aware of the inferior function here), and often the forces of darkness can then use us to attack someone who is doing good work. In the 2nd World War there was the phrase 'careless talk costs lives.' It still does.

Aphrodite has not come out of the sea yet. The Greeks, being intuitives, concretised beauty, and thought of Aphrodite as a beautiful woman, but She is a different sort of Beauty. Uranus has to die before Her power can be released.

If our earthy needs as babies and children are not met then our life is threatened. If this recapitulates in therapy, this is where the client will often contact a part of the psyche which is 'psychopathic'. This is not the usual meaning of the word but where the person is outraged because they are not getting, and did not get, the right kind of support that they needed in order to live. Imagine what it would be like if a plant or tree could be angry every time it didn't get the water it needed to grow. This is what certain sorts of 'psychopathic' anger are about. The key here for therapists, is to put yourself in the client's shoes and ask yourself, 'what was this need?' Then do your best to fulfil it. It is very useful if both people pray for guidance at this time. The client has to realise that the therapist is human. Most crises in therapy come about because there is not a language or a differentiation of the needs of life. If we meet the needs of the life energy in that person, the person can live.

Understanding the dangers of Uranian energy is essential. In mythology, Uranus hates the children he has had with Gaia, who is also his mother. Uranian energy, on a psychological level, is about perfectionism. The Feminine is not perfect in the masculine way that Uranus judges by. This means that He is against the Feminine in you and me. He can stop your work and the flow of Feminine Truth in you as long as you don't understand this dynamic.

Evil itself, on Alice Bailey terms, is about materiality and how the Lords of Materiality gain power in areas where they should not have it. As women, we have to connect our consciousness with the truth of instinct but in going down we also open ourselves to collective violence and the Furies and also places where evil can come in. It is a rule that evil can come in through the inferior function. Thus: if you're a thinking type, in what you feel about the person; sensation, what you intuit, or know; feeling, what you think; intuition, what you sense, also in matters relating to money and time. We can also be very judgmental concerning matters relating to the superior function. We get annoyed when other people do not manage things with the same skill that we are capable of. Be aware also of whether you are extroverted or introverted. i.e. If you are introverted thinking, your inferior function will be extroverted feeling.

We have to *raise up* the truth inherent in the body. This is the true meaning of the raising up of the Virgin Mary, as is pointed out in the Alice Bailey books. We don't go down and identify with it and stay there. We make the connection and then

translate that connection into some form of art or teaching, or writing, from a place of consciousness. Sometimes we can say what we see in another person, if the truth is linked in to our humanity. We don't fire it like missiles at other people, though, in the initial stages, this can occur!

Much trouble is caused because the personal father was not able to support the ego of the client who, if supported, may have been able to express Feminine Truth. Thus many women capable of supporting such truth have rebelled to survive and stay very Uranian. But the woman has to find good Saturn and Jupiter before she can become a good father to anything! The move from protest to creativity is one of the most important developments at this stage of Initiation.

If the superior function is not supported the negative animus will take up the cause of the superior function because that function has never had a middle ground. Then all sorts of things can go wrong. The views are expressed with too much power and energy. This frightens people and they go away. The negative animus will often take up the voice of the Collective Accuser, (see Sylvia Brinton Perera's book on the Scapegoat Complex). The therapist, who has been holding and supporting the victim ego of the client, becomes scapegoated. This often occurs because the client is not on the side of the Feminine and does not want to be or because they have not yet worked it out on an inner level. NB. All women have to have a relationship with the Feminine regardless of their ray energies. I think the scapegoating aspect of this has to be understood. If the client connects with the vulnerability of the victim ego, the real Self, then he/she is home. Maybe there are forces within the psyche that try to stop this happening. I think many of the problems can be traced to the missing personal father and the missing father in the collective and the explosive rage of repressed feminine energies. The father helps form the ego and it is the lack of a true ego which forms the problems at this time. People are going into therapy without a true ego, because the personal father did not do his job. This remains hidden until the masculine side of the psyche comes in and then the outraged client blames the therapist for his/her suffering. It is not the therapist's fault *but a point of collective unconsciousness*. There are also other ways of looking at this. If you read M Esther Harding's book 'Women's Mysteries', Set comes in and destroys Osiris. Then Isis has to rebuild Him. What is important is that we know it is Set, then the therapist and client can remain in human contact and the work can be held.

Another good book is Alice Bailey's, 'Glamour: a World Problem.' Get to know the glammers of your particular ray energy and try not to inflict them on other people.

THE BIRTH CHART AS A TOOL FOR SELF UNDERSTANDING

If we don't look at ourselves, other people die or suffer because of our inability to hold the reality of our own strengths and weaknesses. Which brings us to integrating Saturn. If we can integrate our Saturn, then we have depth and compassion, as well as consciousness.

In some societies, you never tread on a man's shadow. This means that when someone is stark naked in the most vulnerable parts of their psyche, you try and see with a kind eye. We all have a place of inferiority, which when it is integrated, opens the door to our own strength and our ability to be with our soul, in life.

If you're in an interpersonal conflict, look at your moon and ask yourself what are you projecting and how you communicate. The moon will show the deprivation or the skill with need. Be aware if your need has not been met and then Uranus or Pluto in your psyche take up the cause. This makes it impossible for the other person to meet your need. If you say to me "you did not meet my need for..." I can then apologise and learn and meet your need if possible.

Wherever Neptune is on the chart, is where we go unconscious. At a certain time our soul tells us to 'wake up.' Try and accept responsibility for your own unconsciousness. Then it is possible to talk with other people about mutual unconsciousness, rather than blame. Wherever Neptune is, is where our soul is, and where we experience our soul.

Pluto is a 1st ray planet. It always jars the soul because it is not a sacred planet. That's why we have to be careful when we allow ourselves to be a vehicle for its power. Uranus in aspect to Pluto on the chart and when used with bad will, is, roughly translated, 'if you are not perfect you are dead.' All the transpersonal energies need to be mediated from a human middle ground, otherwise they alienate and destroy, rather than transform.

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I wrote this article in the same year that the tragedy at Dunblane occurred and a year after first seeing the film 'Braveheart'. At the bottom of the stories of Dunblane and 'Braveheart' is the violation of relationship. Hamilton, the man who killed the children in Dunblane, felt he had not been related to. The people who tried to stop him working with children were not listened to and their information was not acted upon.

The Scots had no country of their own in the late 13th Century. No woman has a country of her own as yet, because the masculine comes in and takes over feminine reality and needs in every crisis, unless the feminine can hold. The sort of holding portrayed in the battle scenes of 'Braveheart', against the heavy horse, is the sort of holding out that we have to take against the negative animus in ourselves and others and also against the negative aspect of instinct. We also have to hold against taking on masculine thought-forms which are used to explain what we are going through. Now, 700 years on, the holding must be done through a strong power to love and be wise and conscious, not the power to kill. Initially, the old ways of using our power come up, notably those we have used in previous lives. In particular, old ways of physical destruction, especially if we have transpersonal planets tied in with earth signs in our charts. As we work with these and listen to the quality of energy in each, we can gain our power to change the structures and ways of relating, in every aspect of life. From my work with myself, I know that my inner earthy warrior held the energy which, when listened to, could change things. The energy that would have killed in battle many centuries ago can now be used to bring about what is new. It can be used not to kill, but to change the darkest places.

*** Notes**

Alice Bailey was a woman who lived from 1880-1949. During her life she wrote down lots of previously hidden spiritual information.

Ray energies. Alice Bailey describes how there are 7 different ray energies:

Ray 1: Will or Power.

Ray 2: Love-Wisdom.

Ray 3: Active Intelligence or Higher Mind.

Ray 4: Art and Harmony through Conflict.

Ray 5: Concrete or Lower Mind.

Ray 6: Devotion.

Ray 7: Ceremonial Magic.

The soul of a person has a ray energy and the different parts of the personality each have a ray energy. The ray is a quality of energy. The theory of ray energies is a very useful tool for understanding others and promoting Right Relationship.

The Four Functions. Jung discovered that each person has a superior function, which can be one of the following: sensation (earth), feeling (water), intuition (fire) and thinking (air). In order to function in life a person has to be grounded in their superior function. They can use this with great skill and expertise and, as each function looks after an area of life, this ensures that life moves more smoothly for the benefit of all. The theory of the Four Functions is a great help in understanding others and promoting Right Relationship.

The Terrible Mother and the Terrible Father.

There are two concepts which can help us understand the really nasty sides of Mother and Father energy. We can feel these energies sometimes when people are nasty towards us in a very violent way. This violence can be emotional or physical, or come from the head in mental attitudes towards us, or opinions about us. If we let ourselves be taken over by these negative energies, we do and say things which frighten people and animals. We can easily make them afraid of us, so they dare not be themselves and they feel that *they* are bad.

Examples of the Terrible Father in history are Hitler and Stalin. But we all know people who behave a bit like them, sometimes. The Terrible Mother is a very strong, nasty, emotional energy. It tries to intimidate and bind by using emotionally destructive power, by withdrawing love, by going away, by threat.

We have to have enough strength and healing to control these energies in ourselves and to stand against them in other people. If we don't, we feed and support the negative powers in the world which would like to bring disharmony and warfare between people. Try to build a strong middle ground in yourself so you can handle the destructive elements in yourself and so become an agent for peace.

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EARTH AND THE SENSATION FUNCTION

by Margi Ross

The psychologist, C G Jung, discovered that there are four functions, sensation, intuition, feeling, and thinking. Each person has a superior function and an inferior. The superior function is where we have skill and refinement: it is the house in which we live.

Each function is equated with an element, so sensation = earth, intuition = fire, feeling = water and air = thinking.

Earth and water are by tradition feminine elements. In today's culture they are seen as slow and less interesting than fire and air. This is because they have not been differentiated or sorted and they are not understood.

If someone has sensation as their superior function, it means they are good with the earth element. Great mountaineers, footballers, sailors, surgeons, all have to be accurate judges of matter. On a more everyday level, dealing with money and mortgages, our bodies, food, caring for animals and plants, all these activities demand that we judge matter and the needs of life with accuracy.

A function can be extroverted or introverted. The examples I gave you in the previous paragraph are for extroverted sensation: the person has a good relationship between themselves and matter in the external world and they can work with skill and accuracy. Introverted sensation is more difficult to understand because it is not acknowledged at all! The person with this as their superior function is able to organise and define how external things to do with matter affect them and other forms of life. For instance, we live in a world where more and more noise is being allowed in shops. The un-evolved person will think 'it has been proven to boost sales, so let's have piped music'. Sound is energy and the person who is an introverted sensation type will feel like their body is a receptive disc, like the big ones used to receive Sky television. They can't use their head to shut the sound out, so it goes straight in. It's like being tortured. In countries where the sensation element is strong and is respected, there is more control over noise and better boundaries in the case of a crisis involving matter. Germany's response to BSE and Foot and Mouth is such a response. The British response is that of a thinking type country backed up by intuition: hence the appalling way these crises have been handled in this country.

Each function looks after an element and an aspect of life. If people are not conscious of this, the wrong people have control over areas of life in which they have no expertise.

The potential strength of people with introverted sensation is to advise us all on how noise, colour, sound, roads, supermarkets and other aspects of life should be designed so that the humans and animals, plants, and other forms of life, are not adversely affected. If introverted sensation people have no voice or self-respect, they can't do this.

Another aspect of sensation is respect for instinct. Like the animals, we have warnings when something awful is going to happen. We are not taught in school how to respect and understand instinct and what it tells us. Often people who are murdered or robbed or those who are caught up in such disasters as plane crashes or boats sinking are forewarned, but they do not know how to act on the information they are receiving. What is happening when people have these sorts of warnings? Is it sensing danger in the energetic field ages before the danger becomes life threatening? I sense it is.

If we look at the sensation function from a more spiritual or scientific perspective, we live in an energetic field, a field of energy. The sensation function and type helps us understand this field with skill. There is also the energy of the plane of the soul in everyday life. This is the area of expertise of the feeling type. It is a field of energy, like the ocean. If feeling types and sensation types can be given the chance to explain and respect their reality, then they can make life easier and safer for all living beings.

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Tools for Right Relationship

by Margi Ross

So often things go wrong in relationship when both people are in a transition. We live in a society where transitions are generally not handled very well, so we have a backlog of wounds.

I've devised a list of questions, which can help bring clarity and greater consciousness to the situation. If you feel it's of any use to you, please can you take yourself through the questions and apply it whenever you feel a need for a resolution of some conflict with another person.

In a woman's psyche, the negative animus (the nasty part of the masculine side of the psyche) usually takes over when the middle ground has not been supported on previous occasions. In addition to this, any woman who is becoming conscious has to integrate the energies of Pluto, the more raw instinctual level of truth. It is through this integration that empowerment happens.

It may be that the Feminine is, in itself, intrinsically split, and it is through our work that the individual anima is brought into some relationship with the older aspect of the Feminine. The individual woman can then become empowered and can mediate, rather than be possessed by the energy of Pluto. If we fear it, or unconsciously identify with it, it has us, and human beings must not be identified with transpersonal collective energies, for we are here to mediate them. If we can mediate them, then all change can happen in a human way.

Questions

1. What is being activated within your own psyche at the moment, or what was being activated at the time of the incident? Look at transits to planets on your own chart: we project what we haven't integrated.
2. What was your previous experience with that person? What is their inferior function? What are your superior and inferior functions? See attached notes on the Jungian concept of the Four Functions.
4. What shared wounds do you have?
5. What old wounds has it touched in you?
6. Are you projecting the Terrible Mother and/or the Terrible Father onto that person? See attached note.
7. What are their Ray Energies? What are their strengths and weaknesses of their Ray Energies and your own? See attached notes.
8. What do you most need from this person?

Going through this process takes the burden of carrying your negative projections from the other person. It is then sometimes possible to talk about what has been going on in a way which is less frightening and stressful for both people.

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ANIMAL WELFARE: FOOT and MOUTH

by Margi Ross

I wrote this article in April 2001, during the worst part of the Foot and Mouth crisis. It is dedicated to every animal and human being who suffered.

During the foot and mouth outbreak, the lack of support for feminine values was visible for all to see. One aspect of life governed by the Feminine is relationship. Where was the acknowledgement of relationship and inter-relationship between human and animal, between animal and animal, and how did the government hold this reality during the crisis? It wasn't. If Feminine Consciousness were a part of our culture, the animals would not have been killed, except when they were in so much pain and suffering that it was the kindest thing to do. In a land without Feminine Consciousness there is no voice and no confidence to hold an opposing view with power against the practice of putting material considerations first, so animals were treated as commodities, or they were old friends whom you feel powerless to defend in the face of government solutions to illnesses like foot and mouth.

One of the saddest things with the crisis is that the farmers and RSPCA inspectors did not break the law in a good way, and use their common sense to allow pregnant sheep and ewes and their lambs to move into nearby fields when the fields the animals were in became so muddy. Why didn't they have the confidence to *show* the government what to do and to act on what they knew?

One aspect of the Conscious Feminine is about connecting into feeling values and the Feeling Function*. 'I will not let you put this animal to sleep because she is my friend, because he has a right to life, because he hasn't got foot and mouth. If I did, I would be betraying relationship.' There *are* good men, but I've seen how the good men, even at their best, do not have the will or the language to fight for the cause of relationship and love. And the women, I remember some of the farmer's wives I saw on television, did not have the voice to speak up for the animals and their own sense of what was right. (There were exceptions to this from both men and women).

There are feminine spiritual laws and one of them is that you do not treat any living being as a 'thing', as a commodity, as an 'it'. If women do not speak for the reality of kindness and love, who will? When we don't speak, we betray the animals. Every living being is sacred and has a right to live. I have been a vegetarian for 33 years. If some people *do* want to eat meat, then treat the death of that animal as something very serious. A living being has given up his/her life, so you can be fed. We have lost the reverence for life and we have to re-find it. We have to fight for these values.

With the Conscious Feminine comes a middle ground for earth and water, for the first time. Without it, terrible things happen. Solutions come from the head, rather the wisdom of the earth and the sensitivity of feeling. The policy of culling did eventually stop the disease, but in the wrong way. If we let masculine solutions rule, things are done through the use of will, rather than the laws of love. Homeopathy has been

around for years. Why weren't animals treated homoeopathically during this outbreak and after the 1967 outbreak, as a precaution? Because homeopathy is about the laws of matter, it is not respected, and drug companies will not make lots of money from homeopathy. Where are the boundaries and laws to stop sheep being herded into several lorries in a day, to make money? Why do animals have to watch their friends and relatives being killed in front of them while they wait for their own death? So many women know that this is wrong: we have got to stop these things happening.

Why do people go into supermarkets and buy food which comes from animals which have never seen the light of day and who have been given feed made from other animals? Because there is not the deeper connection to how animals *feel* and what happens if you rear animals away from the light of day and feed them on ground-up animals. If you do this, the immune system is weakened and terrible things happen like BSE and foot and mouth: the laws of life are being abused in the most fundamental way.

Evil does not only come into life through big wars like the world wars. It is easier to see what is happening when this occurs. It can come in through the realm of ideas: through the idea that it is OK to treat animals the way they are treated because they are 'only animals'. Through the idea that people are more important than other living creatures. We are all part of a web of inter-relatedness and inter-dependence. Evil comes in if we do not include and consider how living creatures feel: it happened in the last war. It comes through materialism and greed and putting profit before life. It says that the ends justify the means: they don't.

Monty Robert's work with horses, discovering how they relate, can be extended to every living being, if we seek to understand another creature's reality and needs and language.

In a land without Feminine Consciousness there is no responsibility coming from the government for the ruin of people's lives. Where was the financial support for the people that were going under? Everyone should have been contacted and money put in their bank by central government, so that the network of support for life could be kept going. *The Feminine is sometimes the totally essential attention to small detail, which feeds the heart and ensures survival.* It is not right to let people die of despair or go under financially in a crisis: we are all dependent on each other. Any conscious woman could have managed the crisis of foot and mouth in a sane and human way. It would have prevented the mass murder of so many animals and the despair. And, for the purely materialistic, it would also work out better financially. Money will always be found for a war, why not for love?

How do we organise ourselves so we can fight on behalf of kindness and gentleness, on behalf of love and relationship and caring? Feminine and masculine laws are different. At present there is no upholding of feminine law within the institutions, so in a crisis, feminine laws are not obeyed. So, we either have to bring feminine law into masculine institutions, or form our own institutions, which uphold feminine law, and reality and can stand in relationship to the current structures. **We have to define our own reality and give this reality a language and a conceptual framework. It is the only way to bring love and relationship into life as a conscious value.**

*In the Jungian concept of the Four Functions or Types, a feeling type is someone who has skill in ordering relationship and inter-relationship and who puts the value of relationship first in any situation.

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THE CONSCIOUS FEMININE AND THE FEELING FUNCTION

by Margi Ross

The 'Conscious Feminine' is the next stage in the development and expression of the Feminine Principle. It is about the birth of Feminine concepts and thought forms which can support Feminine Reality and Feminine law, which is the law of love and inter-relatedness: it is about the soul coming into everyday life.

There are tools which can help us bring the Feminine into life and one of these tools is Jung's concept of the Four Functions.

THE FOUR FUNCTIONS

Jung first wrote about the theory of the Four Functions in the 1920s. He realised that each person had a superior function, which can be either feeling (water), thinking (air), sensation (earth) or intuition (fire). Thinking in this map has nothing to do with the intellect, as any type can be intellectual: feeling has nothing to do with emotion: any type can be emotional.

Feeling types organise their world according to the value of relationship and thinking types through the linking of associated ideas in a logical sequence. Jung classed feeling and thinking as rational functions, as they are both concerned with ordering. Intuitives live their lives through their ability to 'know' what is happening and this intuitive knowing is accurate and can be relied on: The world of symbols and imagery is easily accessible to them, as is a sense of the potential in situations and in people. Sensation is about matter and the world of energy. The sensation type has the ability to order matter accurately, e.g. to be a mountaineer your perception and judgment of the reality of the rock face has to be accurate. I sense that you would have to have sensation as your superior function or your auxiliary function to be a really good mountaineer.

Jung realised that opposite to the superior function is the inferior, therefore, if someone had feeling as the superior function, the inferior function would be thinking. He or she would then have sensation or intuition backing up the superior function; this is called the auxiliary function.

The map looks like this:

FEELING

Superior Function

SENSATION

Auxiliary Function

INTUITION

Fairly chaotic but
not as chaotic as thinking

THINKING

Inferior Function

or:

FEELING

Superior Function

INTUITION

Auxiliary function

SENSATION

Fairly chaotic
but not as chaotic as thinking

THINKING

Inferior Function

Or both the 'auxiliary' functions might be equally developed, then the map would look like this:

FEELING

Superior Function

SENSATION

INTUITION

Quite well developed

Quite well developed

THINKING

Inferior Function

The superior function is where we are skilled and comfortable and subtle. The inferior function is where we can be very creative, or very clumsy and inaccurate.

If we understand the theory of the Four Functions, it can give us an important tool for Right Relationship. In Right Relationship we use our mind to help us see from the heart and understand the other person's reality and perspective.

It is my belief that countries, like people, have a superior function and I sense that, in Britain, it is thinking. Thus in schools and institutions thinking types are favoured and seen as intelligent, while the gifts of other types are not so well supported. If we live in a country where only certain people have a language and support, much suffering is caused. Earth and water are by tradition feminine elements and their reality is not understood and respected in psychological and spiritual circles. We associate the spiritual with air and fire and a transcendent reality, not also with an immanent presence, which exists in everything. In over 20 years of working with feeling types, (including myself), I have been able to see and understand what this does to people. If feeling is not understood it leads to illness, despair and apathy in the individual and in the country generally.

The damage that a purely thinking approach can bring to an area of life can be seen in the current approach to educational standards in Britain. Of course we need standards, but these should include the needs and reality of all the children and teachers, not just one group. In any school, the functions will probably be evenly distributed throughout the children. If the person organising the evaluation is a thinking type, then the criteria for excellence will be those of a thinking type. It will not meet the needs or give value to the abilities of other types. In school, feeling type children are seldom given the help and encouragement they need to develop their gifts. They usually leave school with their throat chakras blocked and low self-esteem. It affects the development of the mind and intellect, because in the feeling type this would largely be going into the differentiating of feeling values. Teachers do not stand against such distorted methods of evaluation partly because those who have the potential to do so, do not have a voice yet. The feeling type is so repressed in our culture that often he/she dare not speak. This can change: in many years of working with feeling types in therapy, I have seen it change, and the ability of the feeling type to bring relationship into every walk of life can be healed.

What makes the feeling type so valuable is that they will include relationship and put it first even when under extreme pressure. They can hold the value of water in a positive way and help it move in time and space. The feeling type can sort relationship effortlessly because that is what the feeling type does: it is their function. As people learn to support feeling and sensation, life becomes safer, and all life benefits.

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THE FOUR FUNCTIONS

by Margi Ross

Jung discovered that people functioned in life in four different ways. These ways of processing life were through thinking (air), feeling (water), sensation (earth) and intuition (fire).

He classed thinking and feeling as rational functions, because they were concerned with ordering; sensation and intuition he classed as irrational. The functions also express in an introverted or extroverted way within each individual. In an introvert the energy does not need to flow out to the environment and to people; in the extrovert it does. Sometimes a person can become a 'turn type'. This means that in order to adapt to the environment they have turned themselves into what appears to be another type.

We use all four functions, but one predominates, and this he called the superior function. It is the one which is most differentiated, or sorted, and we can use it with subtlety and great skill. In addition to the superior function, there is an auxiliary one, which supports the superior, or two might be relatively equally developed and available to support the superior function. Lastly there's the inferior function. This is the least developed, or differentiated, but it also has a creative aspect, because it is not under our control and it is connected to the unconscious in a different way than the other functions. It is like having a room in your house where the doors, walls and ceilings are leaky, so things keep coming in, some good and creative and some bad.

If a person had feeling as the superior function, and intuition and sensation equally developed, a simple diagram of the functions would look like this:

FEELING
Superior Function

Supported by SENSATION and INTUITION

Then the Inferior Function would be
THINKING

Sometimes the map looks like this:

FEELING
Superior Function

SENSATION
Backs up the Superior Function

INTUITION is less developed

The Inferior Function
remains the same:

THINKING
Inferior Function

You could, of course, have intuition as the secondary function
and sensation as the less developed function.

In Jung's map, feeling and thinking are always opposites, as are
sensation and intuition. Jungian analysts describe someone
whose superior function is feeling as a 'feeling type.' In any
situation a person uses the superior function as the primary tool
to make sense of the situation. In my opinion, each function looks
after the viewpoint of an element and maintains the sanity and
order of that element in life. One might say that we are,
according to our superior function, the custodian of that element

and its reality but we also have to learn that other people live in and look after different realities.

There are men who are feeling types, just as there are women who are thinking types. But maybe earth and water have first to be differentiated by women, since they are feminine elements, in the way that men's differentiation of air and fire has opened the door for thinking and intuitive women to define their reality and live in it.

Thinking types order their lives through the logical association of related ideas or thoughts. Feeling types order their lives by referring to an inner ordered valuing of relationship in any situation. Feeling says to thinking, 'yes, but how will the people feel?' They are equal and opposite realities. The potential of the feeling type is to be able to speak up for the quality of the subjective experience of people and all life.

Intuition tells us of the potential in people and in other living things and situations. They know something without knowing how or why they know it and they can safely order their lives according to this knowing because their perception of it is accurate enough to be relied on.

Sensation tells us about the world of matter and energy. To the average sensation type, life is a concrete reality and they value, appreciate and care for concrete things: they can handle matter and the material world. For some sensation types, matter is energy and their skills lie with being at home in the world of subtle energy, whether it is seeing life as a living being and working to heal the earth, or being able to work with the subtle energy in the human body and heal it.

If I look in any of the main dictionaries, there is no definition of feeling which concurrent with the reality of it as a function.

In our culture feeling is confused with emotion and being concerned with how life and other living creatures feel is often labelled as sentimental. This means that a complete area of experience and reality is without language and validation and is not accepted as a reality. Most feeling types live a life at least partially adapted to the reality of thinking. It is like being able to speak a language but living in a foreign country, so the person is

always having to translate. The ability to speak this language has always been present in the feeling types I have worked with and it only needs someone who lives in the same reality for them not to be afraid to venture out.

In most countries, intelligence is equated with being able to think and reason. The reality of the thinking type is reinforced, so they have most confidence and often most power; but the other three realities exist and so the people in whom they live and seek a voice. In my experience in working with people over many years, I've come to the conclusion that the superior function is the vehicle through which the Self makes its connection with life and gives what it has to give to life. Earth and water, sensation and feeling, have not been seen as spiritual elements because spirit has been equated with transcendent and not immanent reality. So, feeling types and sensation types have been looked down on within New Age systems and I have often heard them called primitive and regressive. Countries, like people, have superior functions. In England, the superior function is thinking. This means that within our institutions, we do not order through values, we order through concepts.

If a society has one element predominating and that element is equated with truth, then injustice occurs, because the people who carry the other elements are not understood and their contribution to that society is not valued. They carry the shadow. I once had a dream in which I was told 'if the superior function does not take the chair at the head of the table, the inferior function takes it.' I was shocked and moved by the implications of this piece of information, for myself and for other people. It means that if people cannot live in their superior function, they feel ill and without power, and something important that they have to give to life is lost. At the same time the reality of the suppressed and unrepresented functions in all the people still exist, but have no voice. When a function has been undifferentiated in any country, it still speaks but in ways which are a danger to people and to society. This is one of the major reasons why wars occur.

In the more evolved person, the superior function is a vehicle for the perception of the soul, while it is part of the personality in the less evolved person. It is vital that we understand the needs and reality of all the functions and what each has to contribute.

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