

## More on Strategic Questioning

Through dynamic listening to ourselves, to the earth and to our fellow citizens - even those who we might consider our adversaries - Strategic Questioning can:

- break open the stagnant hardened shells of the present, opening up options to be explored
- reveal the profound uncertainty that underlays the facade of sureness, taking this uncertainty towards new possibilities
- uncover hidden power and stifled dreams inside of you
- lead to the transformation of our culture and its institutions, especially by asking the unaskable questions
- help adversaries shift from their stuck positions on an issue, leading to acts of healing and reconciliation

### Through Strategic Questioning we listen to:

- the obstacles to caring, the blocks to action
- the dreams and goals planted deep in the person's heart
- how the person thinks about change and how change happens in their lives
- the path to change that the person sees - however dimly and timidly they see it
- the suffering experienced by the person related to the issue, taking it fully into our hearts without denying its reality, while realising that individual suffering has collective roots
- how to transform the resistance which is found on the path of change
- what the person feels as they anticipate each possible choice or option in front of them
- what support the person would need to move on a path of change

See <http://www.crabgrass.org/strategic.html> and <http://gaiawest.iinet.net.au/sq.html>

*The world is not two-sided - us and them. It is many-sided, and the dividing line may run within our hearts more than between us. In the process of "othering", we lose an important part of our humanity ... each of us has within us the will to make the world a better place, as well as a longing for stability. We live in the tension between these two drives.*

*But we tend to have many more obstacles to acting on the improvement impulse than to resting in inertia.*

*So in my thinking, I've shifted from the question "what makes people change?" to "what keeps people from changing?"*

from *Heart Politics Revisited*, Pluto Press, 2000



Fran Peavey is a bold, humorous and deeply caring woman whose way of working has emerged from her experiences in social change campaigns across several continents and four decades - the early civil rights struggles, anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, the clean-up of the Ganges River, the Middle East conflict and the refugee crises in Bosnia and Kosovo. Fran is founder of Crabgrass, a non-government organisation in San Francisco that works locally and globally on environmental and human rights issues.

Fran is author of *Heart Politics* and *By Life's Grace: Musings on the Essence of Social Change*. Her latest book, *Heart Politics Revisited*, is an inspiring account of how powerful changes can come about by the cumulative effect of many small and life-affirming actions made by ordinary people.

## STRATEGIC QUESTIONING FOR SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY CHANGE



WITH  
**Fran Peavey**  
author of *Heart Politics Revisited*



One and Two-Day Workshops for change agents, community development workers, educators, facilitators and providers of human services

July 28 and 29, 2001

Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre, Bibra Lake

## What is Strategic Questioning?

Strategic Questioning is the skill of asking the questions that will make a difference. It is a powerful and exciting tool that helps local strategies for change to emerge.

Strategic Questioning involves a special type of questioning and a special type of listening. Anyone can use strategic questions in their work and personal lives to liberate friends, coworkers, communities, political allies and adversaries to create a path for change.

Fran Peavey describes this as "a process which invites our ideas to shift and take into account new information and new possibilities. It awakens the suppressed possibilities of change embedded in each person, in each institution and in each society."

This workshop presents a rare opportunity to connect with Fran Peavey, an internationally renowned community social change worker who initiated the Heart Politics movement. This is Fran's first visit to Western Australia.

**This workshop is one of several events that Fran is facilitating in WA and across Australia, as part of her Heart Politics Tour. For more information, contact Rodney on (08) 9337 7217 or [ecoheal@inet.net.au](mailto:ecoheal@inet.net.au)**



## Introduction to Strategic Questioning

**Saturday July 28**

9:30am to 5:30pm (registrations from 8:30am)

Cost: \$105 waged / \$60 unwaged

## Advanced Strategic Questioning

**Saturday and Sunday, July 28 - 29**

9:30am to 5:30pm

(registrations on Saturday from 8:30am)

Cost: \$150 waged / \$95 unwaged

Morning and afternoon teas included.  
Please bring something for lunch, to supplement soup and rolls which will be provided.

## Location of the workshop



For public transport options contact Transperth on 13 6213 or [www.transperth.wa.gov.au](http://www.transperth.wa.gov.au)

## Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_

(work) \_\_\_\_\_

### SATURDAY ONLY - INTRODUCTION TO STRATEGIC QUESTIONING

Payment enclosed of

\$105 waged  \$60 concession

### BOTH DAYS - ADVANCED STRATEGIC QUESTIONING

Payment enclosed of

\$150 waged  \$95 concession

Payment by  cheque or money order

cash paid in person (not by mail)

Please make your cheque out to **Heart Politics Tour** and send to:

**Heart Politics Tour  
Com/4 Bottrill Street  
Hamilton Hill WA 6163**

As places are limited, it is advised to pay prior to the workshop so as not to miss out. Books by Fran Peavey will be available for sale at the workshop.

*Printed on 100% Recycled paper with soy-based inks*



A Gaia Project

