



Human Dignity and
Humiliation Studies



World Dignity University

Bringing dignity to learning, globally and locally

Press Release

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‘Dignity in Times of Globalisation’ A future-oriented and paradigm-shifting conference

16th – 19th August 2017
Renaissance University, Indore, India
Sanwer Road, behind Aurobindo hospital, Gram Reoti, Indore-452015
www.humiliationstudies.org/whoweare/annualmeeting/29.php

The Renaissance University (a new addition to the Renaissance-Indira Group of Institutions), in cooperation with the World Dignity University initiative, hosts the 29th Annual Conference of the global Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies network at the Indore-Indira campus from 16th – 19th August 2017. In times of global and local challenges and crises, new ways of cooperation must be forged, and this conference contributes to this task in future-oriented and paradigm-shifting ways.

Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies (HumanDHS) is a global transdisciplinary community that aims to better understand the dynamics of dignity and humiliation and to open more space for dignity to flourish in the future (humiliationstudies.org). As its representative, Evelin Lindner, the Founding President, has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2015, 2016, and 2017 (see humiliationstudies.org/whoweare/evelin/142.php).

The network has currently around 1,000 personally invited members from all continents, with more than 6,000 people on its address list, and its website is being accessed by between 20,000 and 40,000 people from more than 180 countries per year since its inception in 2003. In 2011, the World Dignity University initiative (worlddignityuniversity.org) was launched, together with the publishing house Dignity Press (dignitypress.org). The network organises two conferences per year, one is a global conference that takes place at a different location

each year, and has been held every year since 2003 in the following places: Europe (Paris, Berlin, Oslo, Dubrovnik), Costa Rica, China, Hawai'i, Turkey, New Zealand, South Africa, Rwanda, and Chiang Mai in Northern Thailand. The second conference takes place each December at Columbia University in New York City. See for a list of past and future conferences humiliationstudies.org/howeare/annualmeetings.php. The network is a not-for-profit initiative that strives to practice a future-oriented dignifying gift economy, operating at a close to zero budget. All members offer their time and resources as their gift to the world.

The World Dignity University initiative was launched in 2011 at the University of Oslo, Norway, to nurture a global culture of dignity. Today, humanity faces major global challenges, which can only be solved by bringing dignity into all relationships, be they between people or with nature. Dynamics of humiliation inhibit dialogue and cooperation, and ruthless competition for domination wears down the social and ecological resources of the world. Education needs to form responsible citizens who care about the common good of humankind as a whole, rather than training them in perpetuating the current problems of the world. The goal of the World Dignity University initiative is to promote the ideal of equality in dignity, locally and globally, with each other and with nature: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights," this is the first sentence of Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The World Dignity University initiative thus represents an invitation to global educators and learners to place dignity at the core of education and to offer their knowledge as a gift to the world.

Evelin G. Lindner has a dual education as a Medical Doctor and a Psychologist, with a Ph.D. in Medicine (Dr. med.), and a Ph.D. in Psychology (Dr. psychol.). She is the founding president of Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies, and co-founder of the World Dignity University initiative. She offers her knowledge as a gift to the world and lives and teaches globally. She is affiliated, among others, with the University of Oslo in Norway since 1997, with Columbia University in New York City since 2001 (with the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity, AC4), and since 2003 with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. In cooperation with the entire HumanDHS network, she convenes its two annual conferences. See her background and books and publications at www.humiliationstudies.org/howeare/evelin.php.