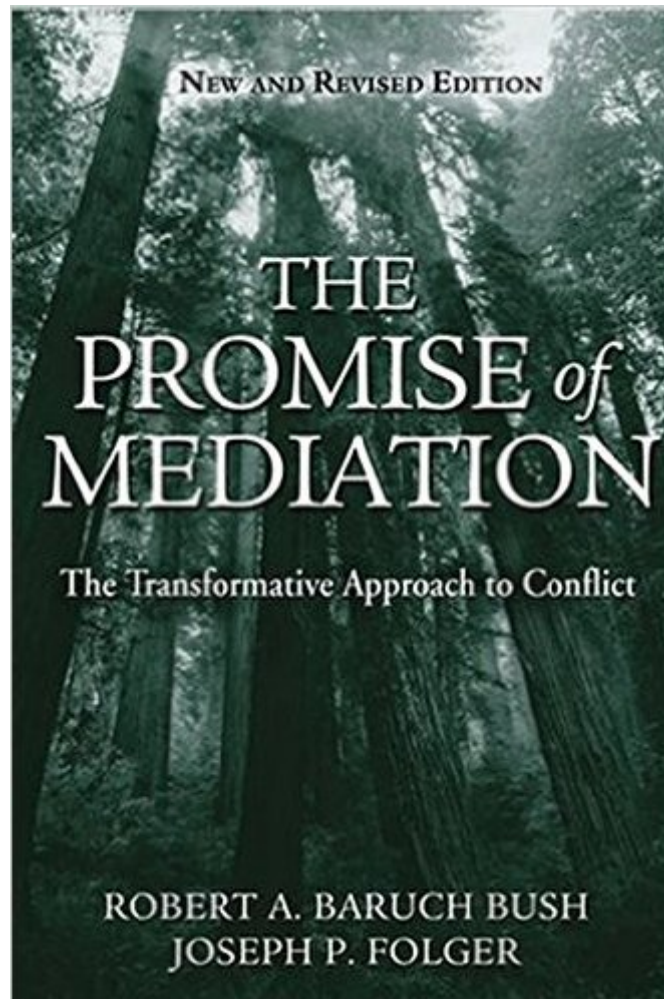


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The Promise Of Mediation: The Transformative Approach To Conflict



Synopsis

The award-winning first edition of *The Promise of Mediation*, published ten years ago, is a landmark classic that changed the field's understanding of the theory and practice of conflict intervention. That volume first articulated the "transformative model" of mediation, which greatly humanized the vision of how the mediation process could help parties in conflict. In the past decade, the transformative model has proved itself and gained increasing acceptance. It is now being used in such diverse arenas as workplace, community, family, organizational, and public policy conflicts, among others. In this new edition, the authors draw on a decade of work in theory development, training, practice, research, and assessment to present a thoroughly revised and updated account of the transformative model of mediation and its practical application, including a compelling description of how the field has moved toward increasing acceptance of the transformative model a new and clearer presentation of the theory and practices of transformative mediation, with many concrete examples a new case study that provides a vivid picture of the model in practice, with a commentary full of new information about how to use it effectively clarifications of common misconceptions about the model a vision for the future that shows how the model can coexist with other approaches and where the "market" for transformative mediation is emerging This volume is a foundational resource on transformative practice, for both readers of the first edition and new readers - including mediators, facilitators, lawyers, administrators, human resource professionals, policymakers, and conflict resolution researchers and educators. More generally, this book will strike a chord with anyone interested in humanizing our social institutions and building on a relational vision of society.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was well worth the time to read this book. The book makes the case for Transformative mediation, and shows how letting go of a strict and strongly held focus on settlements, and control. The mediator can make room for a transformative mediation where the focus is more client centered on each participant in the mediation. By mirroring their respective ideas and feelings, they get more clear, and with a more clear view of their own standpoint, they can feel empowered and more safe, which can lead to less defensiveness and sometimes more recognition of the other side's perspective, and flexibility in their actions. That in turn when happens sometimes/often lead to a de escalation of the conflict. And then sometimes settlement. Process oriented mediation. This makes sense to me. What I am still chewing on: Unclear standpoint in the book regarding what client groups can benefit from Transformative mediation. The case is made for no selection regarding what type of clients the method can be applied for. And then the book in one single case points to Transformative mediation is insufficient alone in regard to battered women. My understanding of it from the book that there is a conflict between the naive view of conflict in the ideology behind transformative mediation (everybody have the same humanity/potential for making peace), and violent high conflict cases. The underlying philosophy of the book with the feminine/relational view of human interaction, that fails to acknowledge human diversity. It stand for a romantic view of human nature that is not in line with evolutionary theory (or the picture the bible paints of humanity after eden), history or everyday life.

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