

Advance Insights From The Field

Dynamic Relationships Unleashing the Power of Appreciative Inquiry in Daily Living

“*Dynamic Relationships* signals the next generation of Appreciative Inquiry. It builds on the most powerful and mysterious of social constructionist principles, the relational nature of our selves. This is a powerful and comprehensive approach to connecting deeply and joyously with our most desired future.”

~Daniel K. Saint, Ph.D., Former Partner, Deloitte

“To my knowledge this is the first book in the field of Appreciative Inquiry that combines theory and practice in such a fine way. It also makes provocative reading as the authors take a very clear stand in the dialogue whether AI will change your life or not: it will. Working through this book will increase your *awareness* of yourself, of your relations, and how to grow and enrich these relations. Taking this clear position not only makes this book refreshing as it fires up the dialogue around AI, but it also helps us readers—in a very practical way—to discover the next steps on the road that leads to the discovery of the positive core of ourselves and of others we are in relation with. Jackie Stavros and Cheri Torres have produced a challenging book that will inspire many of us to travel further in our search for the very best in our relationships!”

~Joep de Jong, Director Learning Solutions Europe, BT,
Amsterdam, Holland

“Knowing both authors professionally, I am delighted they wrote this book. Jackie Stavros and Cheri Torres live the principles of *Dynamic Relationships* in their work and families. I am eager to get my hands on this book as a resource for clients and colleagues focused on positive change in health care.

~Susan O. Wood, Principal, Corporation for Positive Change

“I thoroughly enjoyed reading your manuscript. I got several good ideas relating to our graduate program and my own writing, not to mention some possibilities for changing my relationship with others. Thanks! This book does two things: first, by addressing life outside organizations, it helps make more people aware of the idea of living in the appreciative paradigm; and second, it helps make the idea real and useful to anyone who chooses to act on it. Jackie and Cheri have thus put before us a potentially life-changing tool that we can use to fashion our future in relationship with others beyond organizational life. The rest is up to us.”

*~John M. Peters, Professor and Coordinator,
Doctoral Program in Collaborative Learning,
University of Tennessee*

“Cheri and Jackie invite us to be more mindful, self-aware, of the impact our daily conversations have on our personal and professional relationships. They also give us many experiential exercises to help us create conversations that support more positive and dynamic relationships. *Dynamic Relationships* is a practical contribution to the growing literature of Appreciative Inquiry.”

~Nancy Stetson, Ed.D., Center for Appreciative Inquiry

“Stavros and Torres have made an exceptional contribution with this practical and thoughtful book. This piece takes Appreciative Inquiry beyond the organizational life into your life. It’s an exciting and expansive relational paradigm to live each day.”

~Dr. Marge Schiller, President, The Positive Change Corps

“A fantastic piece of work! The activities and exercises make this approach so real to live into. I especially found the briefcase exercise very helpful because it will get me home on time for dinner with my family.”

*~David Gregorich, Manager of Electronics,
Macomb Community College*

“When my friend Jackie Stavros asked me to read and edit a book she had co-authored, *Dynamic Relationships: Unleashing the Power of Appreciative Inquiry in Daily Living*, I had no idea it would so reinforce an attribute much needed in my life at this time. In July of last year, I learned that I had Medullary Cancer of the Thyroid. This is a chronic and incurable affliction, which does not respond to Chemo Therapy or Radiation. Constant monitoring via blood tests, body scans, and surgical removal of any malignant lesions can control it. The “X” factor in controlling this disease is a *positive mental attitude*.

I defy anyone reading this book and performing the prescribed exercises to have anything but a positive outlook on life and the living relationships therein. As I write this piece, I am preparing for the fourth surgery in nine months. Now, thanks to *Dynamic Relationships*, I will not reflect upon how tired I am of being hospitalized, but rather upon how happy I will be when my surgeon tells me to get out of here and don’t come back! Thanks Jackie and Cheri for sharing this bit of wisdom with me.”

~Pat Riney, Sr., Poet and Author, Commerce, Michigan

“Making positive change happen in one’s own life is the *real* challenge. The authors not only show us the path to a positive future, but also many practical activities to move us along that path. In particular, they have made the underlying principles of this change process ‘come alive’ as a result of their vivid and concrete examples.”

~Paul Hilt, Principal, Hilt and Associates,
Berwyn, Pennsylvania

“*Dynamic Relationships* offers each of us a framework to understand, develop, and enhance the benefits and energy of strengths-based awareness. This heightened awareness provides insight into how we can ‘live’ our personal and professional relationships. Doing so leads to new, positive outcomes, and Principle of Awareness. Thank you Jackie and Cheri!”

~Clarence M. Rivette, President, Global Perspective Consulting