

I'm Elena Leonarduzzi, a student of "Liceo Marinelli" in Udine, Italy. Even if I chose a scientific lyceum, I like also humanistic subjects. I'm very interested in social aspects of our life. I took part in the congress about the Goddess at the University of Udine and I wrote this after participating and reading some article about this topic.

A BETTER FUTURE? A GYLANIC SOCIETY

As Eisler and Gimbutas tell us, studying history carefully we can learn how a better society can develop from the equality of men and women and from the collaboration between them.

Moreover Gimbutas expresses a fundamental concept: there mustn't be a change of roles, women don't have to assume the power detained now by men because the situation wouldn't be different, because there would be another "domination system, even if in the form of a matriarchal society. It should be matristic, or, better, "gylanic", and born from the right balance of both sexes.

Analysing history, especially in ancient times, you will find many examples of collaboration and sex-equality. One of them regards the statues of divinities. In fact most of them represent female divinities, symbols of fertility or abundance. In some representations there are both males and females but the second ones are bigger, which is a sign of more importance.

Gimbutas describes many examples of matristic society in the Ancient Europe and compares them with the Kurgan's or, more at large, the Indoeuropean.

In the first society, which was equalitarian and pacific, wars didn't occur and there was no use of weapons. It was mainly based on agriculture and from this comes the cult of the Goddess, symbol of fertility.

In the latter society where sheep-farming was the main activity, fighters were venerated and so battles and conflicts were frequent. Obviously women, who didn't take part in wars, had no power.

These two antithetic examples show how social structure depends on culture and is determined by peculiarities.

The purpose of studying history and our past shouldn't be only to change our opinions on old societies that we have given to birth due to our androcratic point of view. Instead, as Eisler teaches us, we have to understand what we can, and should, do for a better future, in order to reach the union of the entire Earth. This is necessary if we want a pacific and interrelated world, in which a deep sense of identity is strictly joined with a strong respect of alterity. In fact everyone has the same problems (life and death), destiny and origin (from a Mother/Father Earth).

Lately women's importance and power in society has grown: you can hear of women in politics and in other jobs considered typical of men.

What isn't changing is ideas, conceptions and stereotypes about male and female genders.

In fact everyone, unconsciously and more or less strongly depending on the single person, associates house-work to women and jobs like being politicians to men.

To prove that all this is true, it's enough to ask a class of 16-year-old males and females a simple trick: "A man and his child have an accident. The father dies and the boy is taken to many hospitals. In one of them they decide to operate him. They make everything ready but the surgeon, just after seeing the child says:

-I can't operate him! He's my son!

How can this be possible?"

The answer is that the surgeon is a woman, the child's mum, but the answer is hard to find out, for the reason I previously explained. All students probably accept the idea of a woman being surgeon, but in their unconscious the name "surgeon" is associated with "man". Therefore the answer isn't so easy!

For a better pacific and equalitarian future, women should increase their "power" or, even better, they should reach the equality with men. Above all these stereotypes must be erased from common beliefs and the unconscious of all people.

Following Eisler's opinion the world will soon face a dilemma: weather to go on with a domination system or move to a gylanic one. If we choose the first possibility, with our technological development, the possibility of extinction isn't as remote as we preferred to think. Instead, choosing the second opportunity, after some time, it may be possible that the sons of a matristic society grow peaceful.