

DAVID C. KORTEN

INTRODUCTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Find below three versions of my biographical information that vary primarily in terms of length. Feel free to select and adapt to mention those things you believe will be of greatest interest and relevance to the group to whom you are making the introduction.

VERSION #1 (Short version)

Dr. David C. Korten is the author of *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*. His previous books include the international best-seller *When Corporations Rule the World*, and *The Post-Corporate World: Life after Capitalism*. Korten is co-founder and board chair of the Positive Futures Network, which publishes *YES! A Journal of Positive Futures*, founder and president of the People-Centered Development Forum, a founding associate of the International Forum on Globalization, a board member of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE), a member of the Social Ventures Network, and a member of the Club of Rome. He holds MBA and Ph.D. degrees from the Stanford Business School, has thirty years experience as a development professional in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and has served as a Harvard Business School professor, a captain in the US Air Force, a Ford Foundation Project Specialist, and a regional adviser to the US Agency for International Development.

VERSION #2 (Intermediate Version)

Dr. David C. Korten is the author of *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*. His previous books include the international best-seller *When Corporations Rule the World* and *The Post-Corporate World: Life after Capitalism*. Korten is co-founder and board chair of the Positive Futures Network, which publishes *YES! A Journal of Positive Futures*, and is founder and president of the People-Centered Development Forum, a board member of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE), a member of the Social Ventures Network, and a member of the Club of Rome. He is also a founding associate of the International Forum on Globalization (IFG) and a major contributor to its report on *Alternatives to Economic Globalization*.

Dr. Korten holds MBA and Ph.D. degrees from the Stanford Business School, has thirty years experience as a development professional in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and has served as a Harvard Business School professor, a captain in the US Air Force, a Ford Foundation Project Specialist, and a regional advisor to the US Agency for International Development. He is known internationally through his writing and lectures as a leading critic of corporate globalization and a visionary proponent of a planetary system of local living economies based on the organizing principles of healthy eco-systems and properly regulated market economies.

VERSION #3 (Long Version)

Dr. David C. Korten is the author of *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*. His previous books include the international best seller *When Corporations Rule the World* and *The Post-Corporate World: Life after Capitalism*. He is a founding associate of the International Forum on Globalization (IFG) and a major contributor to the IFG report on *Alternatives to Economic Globalization*. He is co-founder and board chair of the Positive Futures Network, which publishes *YES! A Journal of Positive Futures*, founder and president of the People-Centered Development Forum, a board member of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE), a member of the Social Ventures Network, and a member of the Club of Rome.

Dr. Korten earned his M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He has been a faculty member of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business, a researcher at the Harvard Institute for International Development, and a lecturer at the Harvard School of Public Health. He devoted his early career to advancing management education in low income countries. He set up the College of Business Administration at Haile Sellassie I University in Addis Ababa, served as academic director of the Central American Management Institute (INCAE) in Managua, and was a visiting professor at the Asian Institute of Management. He has also served as a Ford Foundation project specialist in Manila and as Asia regional advisor on development management for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) based in Jakarta. Dr. Korten completed his military service during the Vietnam War as a captain in the U.S. Air Force serving in Air Force headquarters command and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Dr. Korten's books and articles are required reading in university courses around the world. *When Corporations Rule the World* helped frame

the issues that now energize global civil society in opposition to corporate rule. Dr. Korten is author or editor of twelve other books, including *Globalizing Civil Society* and *Getting to the 21st Century*, and contributes regularly to edited books and periodicals.

He grew up in a very conservative community and pursued a career as a development professional at the heart of the establishment—until he realized that the conventional wisdom driving the most powerful of establishment institutions has placed the human species at grave risk. In the late 1980s, he broke with the establishment and began to apply his training in psychology and organizational systems analysis to understanding why such a promising and seemingly intelligent species has chosen an ultimately self-destructive path.

He has since become known internationally through his writing and lectures as a leading critique of corporate globalization and the prevailing free market ideology. He is a passionate advocate of the idea that resistance alone is a losing strategy. Convinced that change requires a positive vision, he has focused much of his attention over the past ten years on advancing understanding of the higher order possibilities of life and our distinctive human nature, and of what we must do to actualize these possibilities.