

10/17/08 *Notes from Nirvaír*

This week I have been in Mesa, attending a seminar to learn how to facilitate leadership workshops for the Khalsa Montessori School community. The training is based on the ideas in the books Leadership and Self Deception and Anatomy of Peace, both by the Arbinger Institute. These books tap into some basic wisdom about human experience and relationships that is also present in Maria Montessori's discoveries. This wisdom includes ideas such as personal responsibility, the impact of relationships on results, the importance of community, and a focus on the learner rather than the teacher.

I love sharing ideas with people from many different types of environments who have found this material to be relevant to their groups. People are people and successful corporations, non profit agencies, schools, colleges, government departments and individual families benefit from applying this wisdom.

I look forward to sharing what I have learned and plan to organize some workshops at Khalsa School. Here are some thoughts from another Arbinger publication, The Choice in Teaching and Education:

“Learning happens in relationship with others. The quality and quantity of learning is a function of the quality of the relationships in which the learning takes place. This means that teacher/student and student/student relationships are inseparable from the educational process, as are other relationships that affect teacher or student--school/parent, school/faculty, parent/parent, and parent/student relationships. Building community within these relationships is essential to fostering learning within them.”