

**Theresa E. McCormick, Ed.D. Recognized by
Worldwide Who's Who
For Excellence in Education and Art**

**Dr. McCormick Recently Completed Her Memoir:
A Far Cry From Here—Growing Up and Out of Fundamentalism**

SEATTLE, WA, July 4, 2012, Theresa E. McCormick, Ed.D. Professor Emeritus, Iowa State University has been recognized by Worldwide Who's Who for showing lifelong dedication, leadership and excellence in education and art.

Recently, Dr. McCormick completed her memoir entitled, A Far Cry From Here—Growing Up and Out of Fundamentalism. The memoir focuses on stories of her whitewashed girlhood, growing up in rural Texas in a fundamentalist Christian family with all their complex relationships, limitations and strengths. These stories take the reader on her journey from a restrictive, limiting upbringing, through the separation from her family and their oppressive religion, and onto the path of discovery of her own spiritual life. This transformation includes her journey into a feminist activist womanhood as a professor, writer and artist.

In spite of Theresa's flaunting of her family's core beliefs in fundamentalist Christianity and a woman's sole role being a dedicated Christian wife and mother, eventually they accept her—the prodigal daughter and sister—back into the fold of the family.

In this transformative memoir, overlapping threads about whiteness, race and gender, and the power of fundamentalist faith to yield security, yet limit growth, weave throughout the stories making this a timely, inspiring, and

compelling memoir. (See Tab “Memoir Writing.” to read a sample of stories from **A Far Cry From Here—Growing Up and Out of Fundamentalism**)



My Childhood Home, Oil by B. Christian, Owned by T. McCormick

***With 36 Years of Professional Experience,
Dr. McCormick Produced Substantial Body of Work***

Active in academia and public education as a teacher, researcher, and writer for 36 years, Dr. McCormick shines as a role model for others aspiring to lives dedicated to being agents of social justice through education and art. She received a Bachelor of Science in Art Education from Oklahoma State University, a M.A. in Art and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction/Multicultural Education from West Virginia University.

Choosing to be a role model for others during her career, Theresa says, “I simply ‘paid forward’ the gifts I was given by many mentors in my early education.” For example, she became involved in her profession because of inspiration from her high school teacher, Ms. Claudia Neeley who was an artist, an art teacher, and a single woman in the 1950s. Ms. Neeley became Theresa’s first mentor and encouraged her to go into teaching art. Thus, Theresa started her career as an art teacher in the public schools of West Virginia, teaching in summer school programs then, in the Federal Programs: Head Start, Follow-Through and Project Developmental Continuity. During 1977-1979, she also served as multicultural coordinator in those Federal Programs and conducted field interviews with elderly African Americans, compiled and edited their stories into books for classroom use, including ‘The Hollands of Green Street—An Oral History of Elderly Blacks’ (1977-78). **(See Tab “Academic” for others in this series on West Virginia Culture and Oral Histories).**

During her years in academia (1982-2004), Dr. McCormick taught multicultural, nonsexist education for future and current teachers and also conducted and published research in that area. In 2006, she received the prestigious Willystine Goodsell Award from the Research on Women and Education/American Educational Research Association (AERA). This is an award given to recognize an educator who has served AERA on behalf of women, girls, and education through scholarship, activism, and community building.

A special delight of hers is her years of work with international undergraduates and graduate students. Dr. McCormick was graduate research

advisor and committee chair of numerous masters and Ph.D. students from all over the world. Particularly gratifying and mutually beneficial was her work with doctoral students from China, Taiwan, Brazil, and Kenya. Directing the research of these students resulted in further collaborations and international exchanges following their graduation. For example, in 2003, she and her Brazilian Ph.D. student, Claudia Mendes Giesel, attended the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre. Their paper was titled, "Developing curricula for Social Change and Justice: Perspectives from the United States and Brazil." In 2002, Dr. McCormick was a Visiting Professor in the Exchange Scholar Program of National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, and in 1999, she was a Visiting Professor in Kenya at Kenyatta University, where she conducted research and presented seminars and lectures for graduate students and faculty on gender in education. In 1995 she and other colleagues from the US attended the

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES 1995-2012

THERESA MCCORMICK

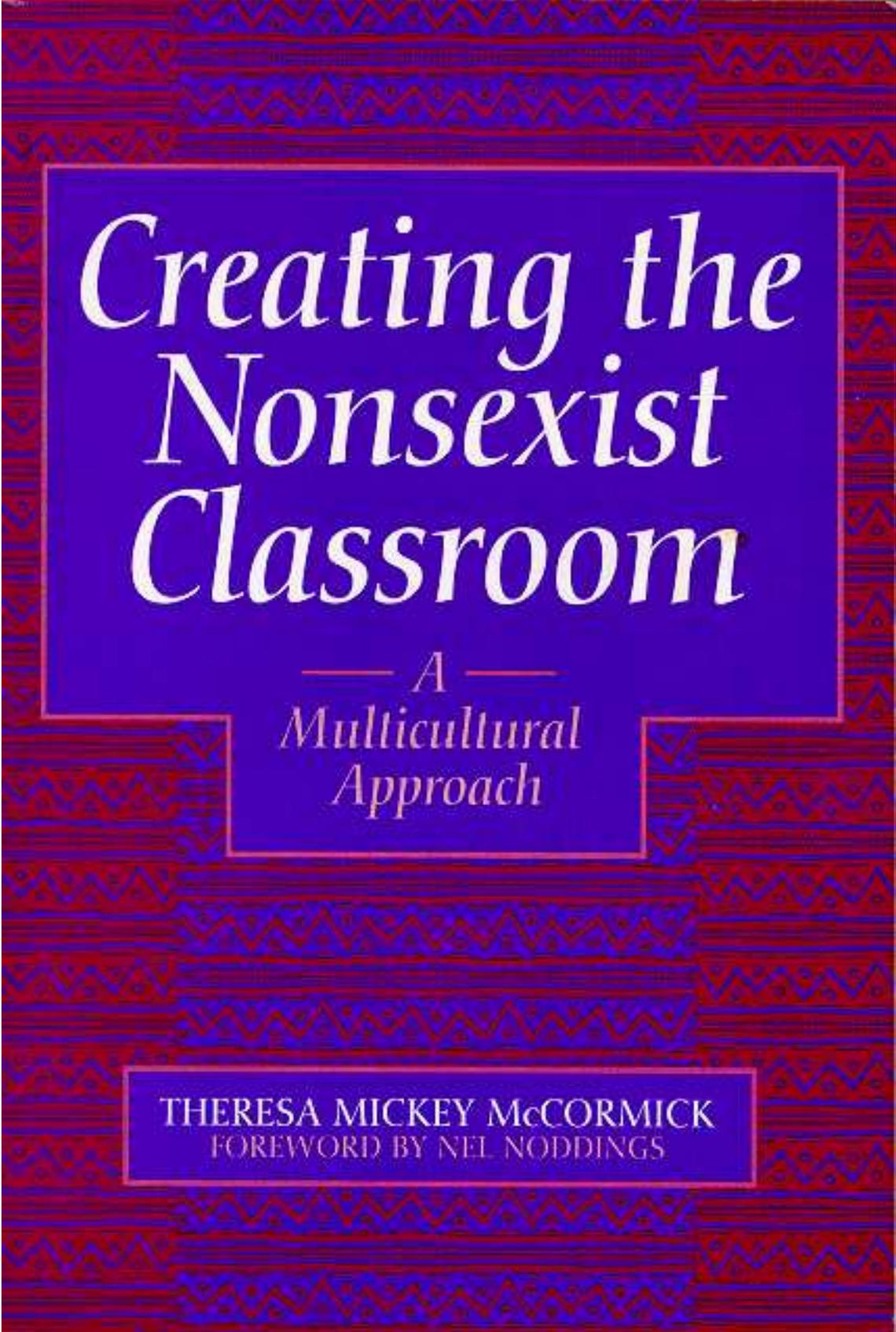
United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

After retiring from Iowa State, Dr. McCormick continued working as Affiliated Faculty Consultant with an exchange program to promote curricular transformation between the ISU Women's Studies Program and the Gender Studies Center at Kharkiv University in Ukraine. In 2005, she traveled with the

US delegation in Spring 2005 and gave presentations and workshops on “Women in Higher Education” and “History and Theory of Feminist Pedagogy.” Later, in the Fall 2005, she and another colleague presented a paper, “My Other, Myself: Feminist Strategies for Improving Cultural Understanding When Ukrainian and American Scholars Work Together in Educational Partnership,” at the Comparative International Education Society Conference in Vancouver, B.C.

Dr. McCormick attributes her success to having numerous supportive role models and mentors, in particular, many wonderful women of color, who mentored and helped her to be an effective multicultural educator. Additionally, she’s appreciative of the generosity of her international students and her international faculty colleagues who opened doors of opportunity for global understanding and exchange. The beauty of these relationships is that many of them continue to blossom years after all the projects and conferences are history.

Her books include Creating the Nonsexist Classroom—A Multicultural Approach (1994, Teachers College Press). In 1997, Creating the Nonsexist Classroom received an endorsement as an Exemplary Informational Product from the U.S. Department of Education Gender Equity Expert Panel. (See Book Cover Below). **To order copies of the book (\$10.00 plus shipping), contact Dr. McCormick at theresamcco@comcast.net.**



Creating the Nonsexist Classroom

— A —
*Multicultural
Approach*

THERESA MICKEY McCORMICK
FOREWORD BY NEL NODDINGS

Dr. McCormick also co-authored another book Multicultural Education: Awareness and Activities (2000, Kendall-Hunt), with her colleague, Dr. Lenola Allen-Sommerville.

In 2007, Dr. McCormick published a chapter, “Strong Women Teachers: Their Struggles and Strategies” that appears as Chapter One in an edited book, Gender in the Classroom by David Sadker and Ellen Silber.

In all, she is the author of 28 juried papers or chapters in edited books. **(See Tab, “Academic Writing” - Refereed Articles in Journals and Edited Books for a full view of her publications).**

Dr. McCormick is available for consulting and presentations on multicultural and gender equity topics at schools, universities, churches, and community service organizations. For example, in 2010, she gave the invited Ernst and Young Lecture for the Women’s Studies Department at SUNY-Oswego in New York on the topic of “Strong Women Peace Activists and Educators.” **For more information and scheduling, contact her at:**
theresamcco@comcast.net.

As An Active Artist, Theresa’s Work Spans Over 50 Years

Starting in the 1960s, Theresa successfully combined parenting with teaching and exhibiting art. Her first one-woman show was the M.A. in Art Thesis

Exhibit: "The Art of Stitchery" at West Virginia University. Thereafter, she helped found the Designers' Craft Guild in Morgantown, West Virginia, exhibiting there and in Pennsylvania. Later, she exhibited in group shows and one-woman shows in Kansas, Iowa, and Arizona. Since 2006, Theresa has had a number of one-woman shows in Seattle. Currently, she has four paintings in the "Illuminations" exhibit at the Seattle Design Center. Her body of work includes paintings of her travels as well as local and regional scenery. Some of her paintings are abstract, some realistic, some expressionistic, and some whimsical. Included are silkscreen prints (serigraphs), watercolor paintings, mixed media, oil pastels, oil paintings, collages, fabric wall hangings, and pencil drawings. She's an active member of the Northwest Watercolor Society.



Gold and Grommets

Fabric Collage

Theresa McCormick



Oil

Longbeach

Theresa McCormick

(See Tab “Art Gallery” to view more of her work and go to her facebook page at: www.facebook.com/Theresamcco?ref=tn_tnmn). For purchases, contact Theresa at: theresamcco@comcast.net.



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Theresa McCormick

The Past as Prologue*

With an active and productive lifetime spent in education and art, Dr. McCormick finds retirement from academia has opened up new doors for reinvention of herself in exciting ways and for further development of her identity as an artist and writer. Having an extensive background in multicultural and gender studies, she looks forward to continue free-lance consulting and making presentations on topics of white privilege, race, class, and gender as well as doing more painting and exhibiting of her art work. **(Contact her at: theresamcco@comcast.net).**

Those activities, as well as writing creative nonfiction essays and publishing her memoir, A Far Cry From Here—Growing Up and Out of Fundamentalism, and spending more time with her family, friends and former students around the country and the globe indicate Theresa's intention to continue creating a life in motion, one day and one story at a time.

(*Prologue—“an event or act that leads to something more important”.)