



## Learning and Sustainability in Dangerous Times

By The Stephen Sterling Reader

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### REVIEWS

“Education is at a watershed: either we drift along with today’s mechanistic, maladapted status quo, tweaking the curriculum here and there as we head towards an ecological abyss, or we work with active agents of change to transform the entire educational system. Stephen Sterling has been at the heart of this debate for 50 years, and has become the go-to philosopher and thought leader for everyone who cares about the future of education and of life on Earth.”

— *Jonathon Porritt, Forum for the Future*

“Unlike typical works addressing the imperative to reimagine higher education in the face of contemporary challenges, this book presents a unique opportunity to delve into the profound insights of an inspiring sustainability thinker, researcher and educator. By reading these essays, one understands how best to connect critical thinking, vision and design to develop the kind of education that will provide the next generation with the ability to respond to today’s dangerous times and make the positive difference they are determined to make to their future.”

— *Hillegje van’t land, Secretary General, International Association of Universities*

“Stephen Sterling is clear, deliberate and persuasive in his quest to redesign and reposition education in a world that is threatened and dangerous but also systemically connected. This synoptic text takes a deep dive into the consequences of these turbulent times for learning; it brings together a cogent vision for education that has been constructed over decades of reflection, challenge and influence. The proposal is that relational and ecological principles guide the transformative changes sought. Will this book change (how we see) education? It certainly has the potential to and our future may well depend on it.”

— *Professor Daniella Tilbury, Honorary Fellow, St Catharine’s College, Cambridge*

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Stephen Sterling is a pioneer in sustainability education. This collection of his essential writings is freshly curated by the author and offers a new overview and chapter by chapter introductions that link together his thinking. Sterling’s work offers a compelling and stimulating perspective on the critical issue of how learning and education can make a decisive difference to securing the future in an increasingly uncertain and threatened world. Together these essays provide a critical perspective on the historical context of the role of education and learning with respect to the possibility of securing the future against current negative trajectories. They offer a commentary on current debates on rethinking education in the light of multiple global crises and lay out the key elements of educational thinking and practice based on ecological and relational principles that offer a way forward. These essays inform the growing and urgent debate on the role and nature of education appropriate for these unprecedented times and are essential reading for educationalists and sustainability advocates.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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