



## Meeting at the Crossroads

By Carol Gilligan, Lyn Mikel Brown

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**Meeting at the Crossroads** By Carol Gilligan, Lyn Mikel Brown

"Should sound a national alert to society that even our most privileged girls still pursue normal femininity at great risk to personal and civic health."

THE BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

Lyn Mike Brown and Carol Gilligan ask "What, on the way to womanhood, does a girl give up?" One hundred girls gave voice to what is rarely spoken and often ignored: that the passage out of girlhood is a journey into silence and disconnection, a troubled crossing when a girl loses a firm sense of self and becomes tentative and unsure. These changes mark the edge of adolescence as a watershed in women's psychological development and the stories the girls tell are by turns heartrending and courageous. Listening to these girls provides us with the means of reaching out to them at this critical time, and of better understanding what we as women and men may have left behind at our own crossroads.

A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Inside Flap

"Should sound a national alert to society that even our most privileged girls still pursue normal femininity at great risk to personal and civic health."

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#### About the Author

Lyn Mikel Brown is Associate Professor of Education and Women's, Gender, and Sexual Studies at Colby College and co-creator of Hardy Girls Healthy Women ([www.hardygirlshealthywomen.org](http://www.hardygirlshealthywomen.org)). She is the author of *Raising Their Voices: The Politics of Girls Anger* and, with Carol Gilligan, *Meeting at the Crossroads: Women's Psychology and Girls' Development*. She lives in Waterville, ME.

Carol Gilligan has been University Professor at New York University since 2002. She is also a visiting professor at the University of Cambridge affiliated with the Centre for Gender Studies and with Jesus College. She previously taught at Harvard University for more than thirty years and became Harvard's first gender studies professor in 1997. Her groundbreaking book, *In a Different Voice* (1982) led to critical acclaim, after which she initiated the Harvard Project on Women's Psychology and Girls' Development and co-authored or edited five books. She received a Senior Research Scholar Award from the Spencer Foundation, a Grawemeyer Award for her contributions to education, and a Heinz Award for her contributions to understanding the human condition, and was named by Time magazine as one of the 25 most influential Americans. Most recently, *The Birth of Pleasure* (2002) was described by the Times Literary Supplement as 'a thrilling new paradigm.' Her play, 'The Scarlet Letter,' was part of the 2007 WomenCenterStage festival in New York City and will be produced by The Culture Project next year. Her monologue, 'My House Is Wallpapered with Lies,' was performed as part of the June 2006 V-Day festival, 'Until the Violence Stops: NYC.' Her first novel, *Kyra*, was published in 2008.

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