

## *A new book on When the Gods Have Fled*

**From:** [Dr. Louise Sundararajan](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2024 12:27 AM  
**To:** [iptaskforce@simplelists.com](mailto:iptaskforce@simplelists.com)  
**Subject:** IP--a new book on When the gods have Fled

Dear All,

Al Dueck and I have a new book coming out around June: *Values and Indigenous Psychology in the age of Machine and the Market: When the gods have Fled*

Attached is the flyer for discounts.

Publisher's summary

This edited volume addresses the unprecedented challenge to human civilization by the accelerated forces of market and technology in the contemporary world. It focuses in particular on the consequences of value degradation in people's lives and in psychological discourse. To help society in its long and difficult negotiations ahead with accelerated technology and the market, this volume offers a rich repertoire of cultural resources from an interdisciplinary panel of contributors, who interrogate and explore indigenous perspectives around the world on the perennial question of what it means to be human.

### Endorsements

#### **Girishwar Misra**

When the gods Have Fled invites to engage with the subtle and complex issue of forming our future. Today our thoughts, our actions, our power and our future are under the control of technology and market. This volume recognizes the limitations of the social forces of technology and market and examines their adverse impact on the value premises leading to global existential crisis reflected in large scale increase in violence, alienation and problems of climate change. In addition, the volume draws attention to the ways technology and market are destroying the life style and cultural wealth of indigenous communities. The contributions to this volume illustrate the wisdom lessons from indigenous societies like China, Malaysia and India which suggest that the indigenous cultures have models and practices that expand the scope of existential debate and encourage reconsidering our connections with technology and market. They illuminate the potential of fostering a holistic paradigm rooted in indigenous cultures.

The volume explores the subtle and complex dimensions of technology and market with great force. It captures the complexity and versatility of culture that make us what we are, in an engaging and informative way. It is a fascinating guide suitable for anyone who is wandering what technology and market are doing to us. Illuminating and essential to our understanding of humanity the text is revelatory and powerful. Alvin Dueck and Louise Sundararajan have

accomplished a timely synthesis of cultural history and indigenous psychologies from different regions and have demonstrated that technology and market are powerful and dangerous illusions. By focusing on both the deleterious impact of technology and neoliberalism on indigenous communities, as well as the resources we may find in indigenous cultures in our ongoing negotiations with the machine and the market. The volume offers a fresh line of thinking about choice, identity and morality. Anyone who is interested in the story of cultural journey of humanity will enjoy reading it.

### **Lisa Osbeck**

Alvin Dueck and Louise Sundararajan offer a humanistic vision for a new age, a deft balance of alarm and hope. With thoughtful fervor they confront the spiritual vacuity and grotesque indifference of our time, naming a consequence nothing short of human extinction. Yet their masterfully edited volume offers treasures of resources for thinking and living differently, gleaned from an array of cultural and spiritual traditions historically disregarded in the pursuit of “progress.” Individual chapters are vibrant with distinct insights, contributed by experts from diverse perspectives, but the framing provides a cohesive moral structure to the whole. This book is a timely, provocative, unprecedented contribution to psychology and a vital resource for anyone concerned with human values.

### **Thomas Teo**

If one has concerns about the future of Indigenous Psychology, one need not worry. This volume connects critical and cultural ideas, advances and stimulates reflection, and provides thought-provoking analyses of the pathologies of the economic, technological, and cultural hegemonic status quo and its course. Indigenous and cultural thinking that considers diversity and inclusion, and articulates the moral and ethical-political dimensions of research and practice, are advanced as sources to contest the many maladies that plague the world. This edited book is a *tour de force* and shows a wide-ranging research program at its best.

### **Brent Slife**

I’m frankly relieved that the editors, Dueck and Sundararajan, have turned their considerable analytic talents to this seemingly intractable set of problems. And once again they’ve assembled as formidable a group of authors as I can imagine. Their collective task: to understand, explore, and propose solutions for the extinction of culture, including our own. I’m embarrassed to admit that I never realized the extent or significance of the problem. But this book has raised my consciousness not only to the twin dangers of marketization and technology to all cultures, but also to the relatively untapped wisdom of indigenous religious traditions. How can we, for

example, find cultural unity with the apparent depth of our current societal divisions? As just one of many resources in this book, the indigenous people of Zaire address the issues with fresh and profound insights. This book is a compendium of such resources, which the editors masterfully weave into a wonderful tapestry of sorely needed ideas and practices.

### **Mark Freeman**

Given terms like "erasure," "cultural extinction," and "value degradation," one might assume that Dueck and Sundarajan's volume is an exercise in despair. But it's not that at all. On the contrary, drawing on the expertise, wisdom, and care of an impressive roster of contributors, it is an exercise in unflinching cultural self-confrontation and radical hope. In looking toward the deep well of values found in indigenous cultures, this volume speaks cogently to the importance of remembering and retrieving those dimensions of human reality that have been buried beneath the shiny edifice of the market and modern technology. The result is a timely, significant, and indeed urgent mandate for psychology to extricate itself from its complicity in the neoliberal marketization of being and to play its part in this important recollective process.

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More details to follow,

Louise