

## LISBETH B. SCHORR

Lisbeth B. (Lee) Schorr is Lecturer in Social Medicine at Harvard University, and Director of the Project on Effective Interventions at Harvard University. She directs the Pathways Mapping Initiative, and co-chairs the Aspen Institute's Roundtable on Community Change.

Ms. Schorr has woven many strands of experience with social policy, community building, education, and human service programs together to become a national authority on "what works" to improve the future of disadvantaged children and their families and neighborhoods. She has held leadership positions in many of the major national efforts on behalf of children and youth, including the National Center for Children in Poverty, City Year, the National Academy of Science's Board on Children and Families, the ECS National Commission on Governing America's Schools, and the Foundation for Child Development. From 1965 to 1967 she headed the health division of the OEO's Community Action Program.

She is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, and the National Selection Committee of the Ford Foundation/Kennedy School Awards for Innovations in American Government. She has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from Whittier College, Lewis and Clark College, Wheelock College, the University of Maryland, Bank Street College of Education, and Wilkes University.

Lisbeth Schorr's 1988 book, *WITHIN OUR REACH: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage*, analyzed social programs that succeeded in effectively combating serious social problems (such as high rates of single parenting, youth violence, and school failure). With its documentation of efforts to improve the life prospects of disadvantaged children, *WITHIN OUR REACH* is in wide use in colleges and universities, and by policy makers, practitioners, and advocates for more effective interventions. In *COMMON PURPOSE: Strengthening Families and Neighborhoods to Rebuild America*, published by Doubleday in September 1997, she laid out the evidence that by acting strategically, focusing on results, and putting together what works, it is possible to strengthen children and families, and to rebuild communities.

In his foreword to *COMMON PURPOSE*, William Julius Wilson wrote, "This important book could not be more timely. . . . its practical advice, backed up by systematic evidence and thoughtful arguments on what works and how it works, is what this country needs now more than ever." The late John W. Gardner called *COMMON PURPOSE* "a landmark book, required reading for everyone concerned to reweave our rapidly unraveling social fabric."

Lisbeth Schorr founded and directs the Pathways Mapping Initiative (PMI), supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, to develop new approaches to building a stronger knowledge base about "what it takes" to achieve selected outcomes. The PMI provides a broad array of actionable information to those are seeking to improve results for disadvantaged children, families, and neighborhoods.

Mrs. Schorr and her husband, Daniel, live in Washington DC. They have two children, Jonathan, of Oakland CA, and Lisa, of Boston MA.