

## FROM OUR READERS

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### VALUES AND BEHAVIOR

Dr. Ohnishi's article, "A Historical Perspective of the Philosophy of Value" in the August 2001 *Living Buddhism*, was a much appreciated reminder that our inner values determine our overt behavior, our attitudes, and ultimately our direction in life. While Plato, Descartes, Kant, Emerson, Thoreau, Dewey, Makiguchi and others have identified and systemized values into a philosophical stance, we ourselves create our own individual philosophy of life — knowingly or unknowingly — through our experiences and reactions to those experiences.

We would be wise to review our own philosophy of life in comparison to the philosophers cited in Dr. Ohnishi's article in a conscious effort to ensure that our own views of happiness, value, goodness and beauty enhance our life and those around us at home, work, school and elsewhere. Through chanting, we can examine the effects of living with our beliefs daily. Dr. Ohnishi has offered us guidelines from great philosophers to enrich this process.

*Hope C. Bliss, Ph.D., Annapolis, Maryland*

### PHILOSOPHY OF VALUE

I just wanted you to know how much I enjoyed Stanley Ohnishi's piece in the August 2001 issue of *Living Buddhism*, "A Historical Perspective of the Philosophy of Value."

Actually, whenever I see something by Dr. Ohnishi, I make sure to read it ASAP because I find his writing so thoughtful, so packed full of things I need to learn, so clear, even moving and inspiring. I hope to see more of his pieces in LB in the future, for that reason. And thanks so much, of course, for the wonderful job you do all around!

*Nancy Hodes, Ph.D., Lake Forest, California*