

# Building a Culture of Peace For the Children of the World

This exhibit brings together the ideas of hundreds of people and organizations dedicated to finding a path to lasting peace.

We hope that you will leave with renewed confidence that a culture of peace is possible—and a necessity for life on earth.

Everything that is needed to build a culture of peace already exists in each of our hearts. As stated in the United Nations definition, a Culture of Peace is a set of values, attitudes, modes of behavior and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes and solving problems through dialogue and negotiation among individuals, groups and nations.

### Barriers to Peace

### Environmental Irresponsibility

Pollution and the destruction of the natural environment require solutions that go beyond national boundaries.

Global warming could cause 40 to 50 percent of the world's population to be affected by insect-transmitted diseases such as malaria and dengue fever.

#### Isolationism

People can become frightened by the rising tide of internationalism. Some retreat to familiar places and customs and avoid encounters with "foreigners."

Ignorance of other cultures and countries creates a narrow, distorted view of life and the world. Education is key to fostering global-minded individuals.

### Poverty

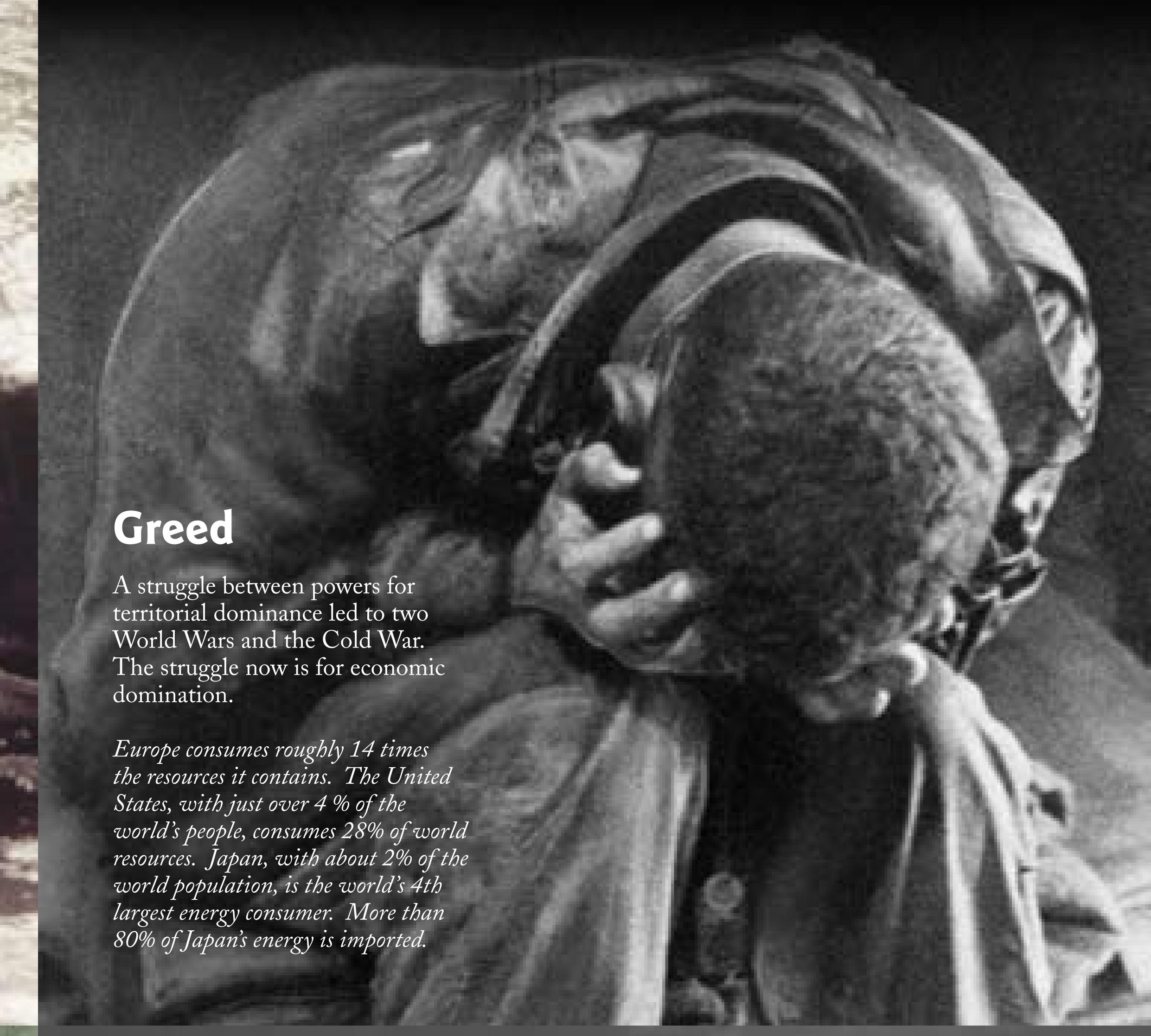
Need is the root cause of many of the conflicts in the world. Where children are hungry, there can be no peace.

78% of Sub-Saharan Africans and 84% of South Asians live on less than \$2 a day. Of the world's 1.3 billion poor people, it is estimated that nearly 70% are women.

THAT SCARES ME,
IT IS THE SILENCE OF THE MANY."

"IT IS NOT THE VIOLENCE OF A FEW

-Martin Luther King, Jr.



### Nuclear Threat

Nuclear weapons are the ultimate embodiment of human negativity. A balance of nuclear power is impossible.

There are enough nuclear weapons stockpiled to devastate the Earth and kill every person on the planet several times over.

### The Illusion of "Efficiency"

In the technocratic view that places the utmost value on technological progress, efficiency and expediency, human beings are reduced to things.

This dehumanizing tendency is starkly evident in the language of war planning where the death of innocent people becomes "collateral damage," attacks become "strikes," and "liquidation" and "neutralize" become euphemisms for killing.

### Prejudice and Stereotyping

To motivate people to make war, the enemy must be a recognizable evil—a stereotype. Prejudice and hate are fueled by ignorance.

Projective and hate are feeled by ignorance.

All near is based on deseption."—The Art of War, by Sun Tau, circa 500 BCE.

## The United Nations and the Culture of Peace

As defined by the United A "culture of peace" was first expressed officially at the Nations, the Culture of Peace International Congress on Peace is a set of values, attitudes, in the Minds of People held in Ivory Coast, Africa. modes of behavior and ways of life that reject violence UN designated the year 2000 the "International Year for the Culture and prevent conflicts by of Peace." tackling their root causes 1999 On September 13, the UN to solve problems through General Assembly adopted the dialogue and negotiation "Declaration on a Culture of Peace" and the "Programme of among individuals, groups Action on a Culture of Peace." and nations. "International Year for a Culture of Peace" UNESCO supported the Manifesto 2000 signaturecollecting campaign. Start of the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World."

## The Pattern of Peace

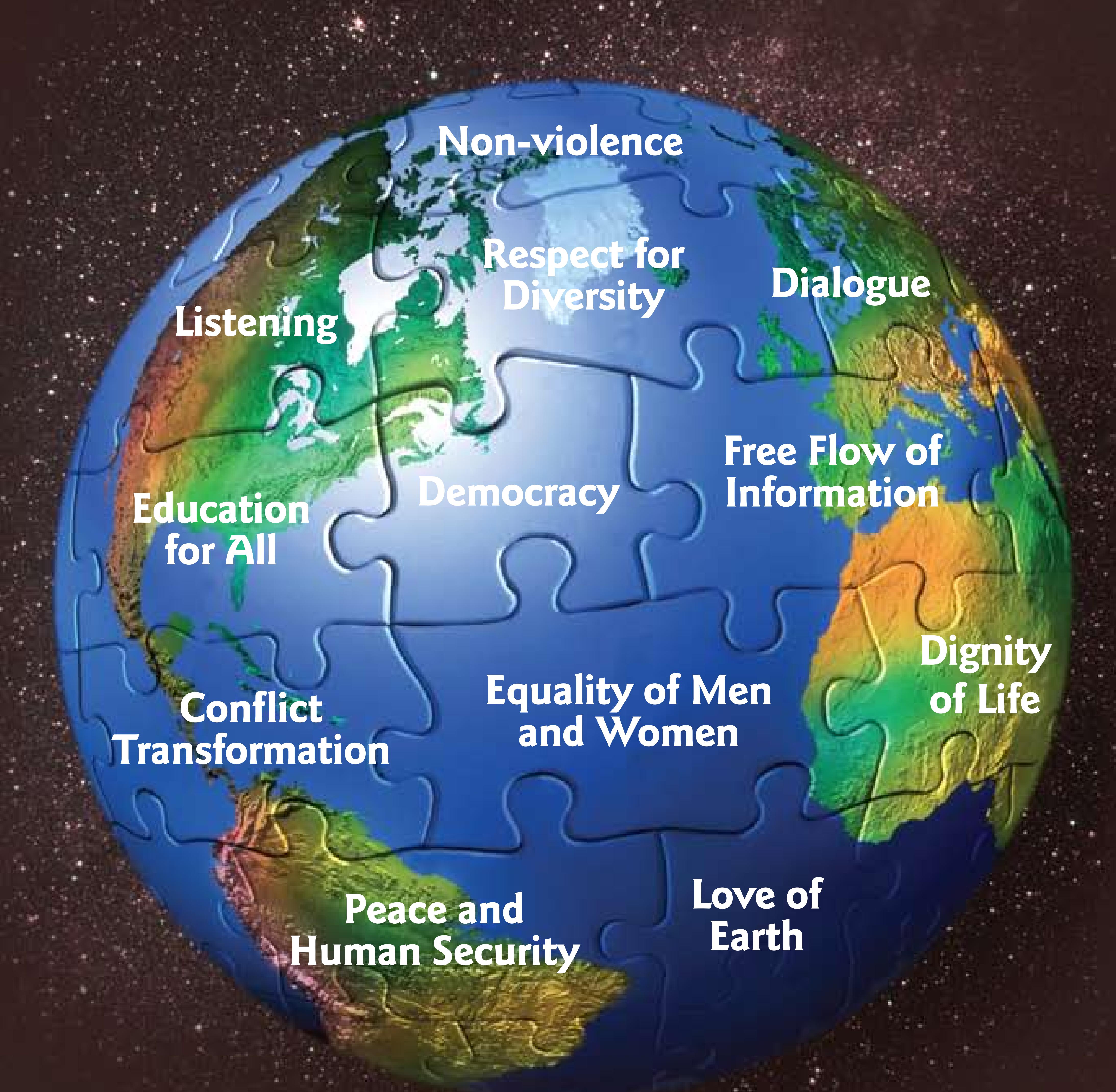
### The Culture of Peace

is made up of an infinite number of interlocking pieces.

Each of us has a part to play in the pattern of peace.

"A peace culture ... can be defined as a mosaic of identities, attitudes, values, beliefs, and patterns that leads people to live nurturingly with one another and the earth itself without the aid of structured power differentials, to deal creatively with their differences, and to share their resources. Violence is more visible and gets more attention in our history books and in our media than peace does. But peace culture will take us where we want to go."

—Elise Boulding, Women's Views on the Earth Charter



### Toward a Global Culture of Peace

Change begins with individuals who work to make their dreams come true. We begin by believing that a Culture of Violence can change to a Culture of Peace.



What are the differences between a Culture of Violence and a Culture of Peace?

Violence - Nonviolence

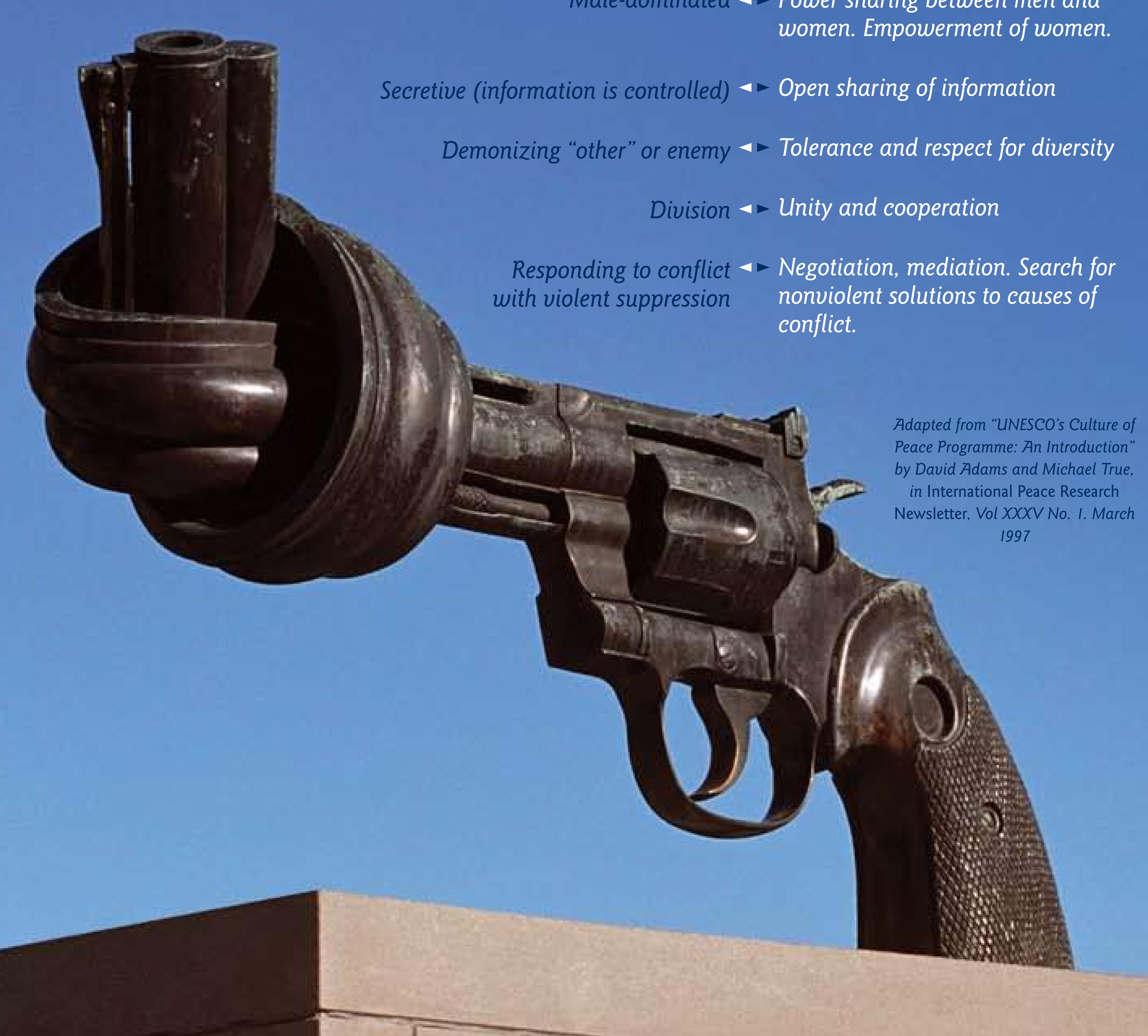
Hierarchical, vertical authority - Democratic, participative

Rules, orders < Dialogue, communication

the natural environment Sustainable development.

Exploitative of people and  $\triangleleft \triangleright$  Respect for human rights and dignity.

Male-dominated >> Power sharing between men and



### The United Nations' 8 Action Areas for Peace

The General Assembly of the United Nations has designated 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World.

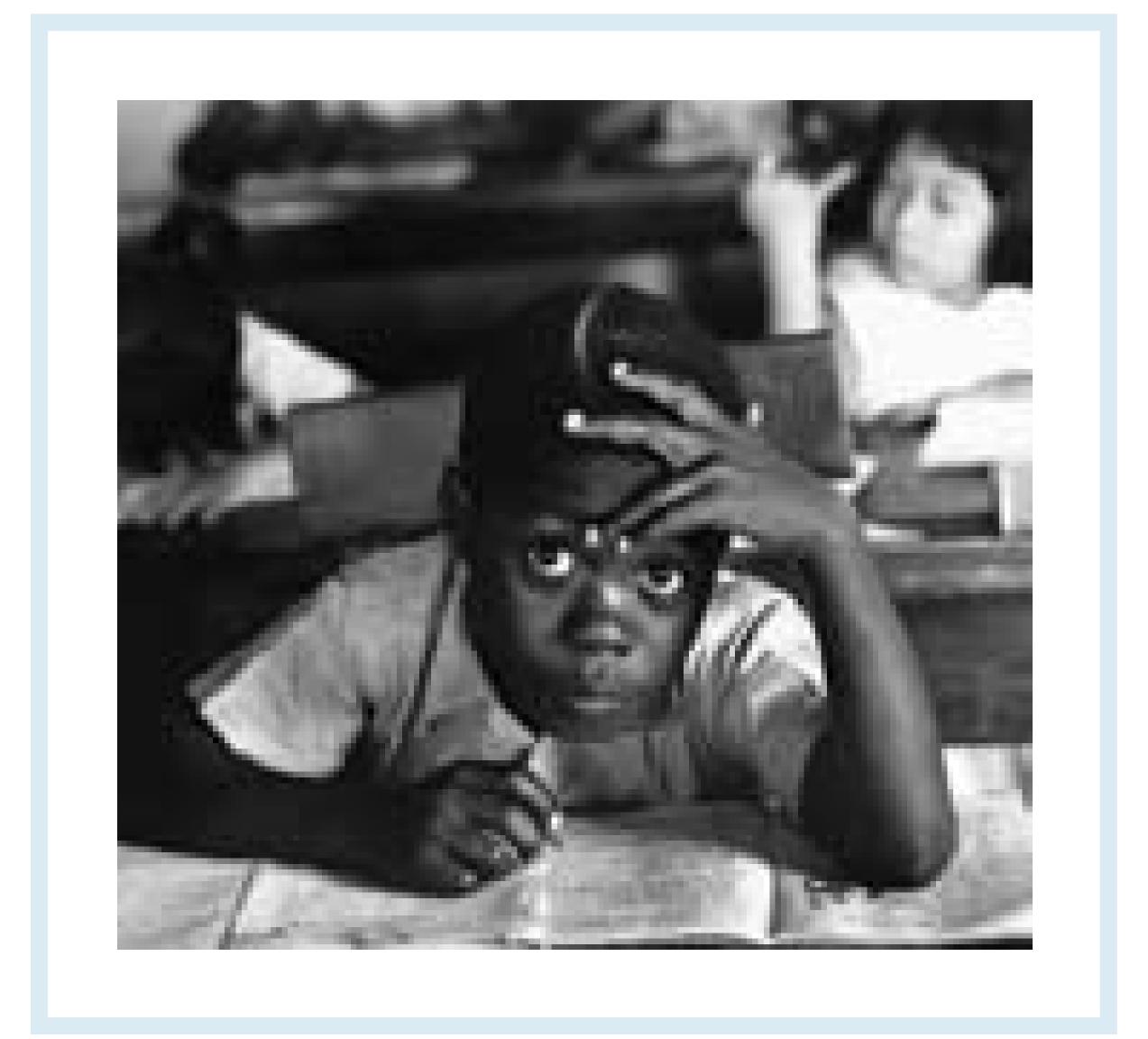
### What is a Culture of Peace?

A Culture of Peace consists of values, attitudes and behaviors that reject violence. In a peaceful world, we solve problems through dialogue and negotiation.

### What can we do to create a Culture of Peace?

In 1999, the United Nations defined eight action areas that you see pictured here. As you visit this exhibition, think about actions that you can take in your school, home or community.





## Fostering a culture of peace through education

by promoting education for all, focusing especially on girls; revising curricula to promote the qualitative values, attitudes and behavior inherent in a culture of peace; training for conflict prevention and resolution, dialogue, consensus-building and active non-violence...

Is there a conflict prevention and resolution training program at your school? Can you start or join one?



## Promoting sustainable economic and social development

by targeting the eradication of poverty; focusing on the special needs of children and women; working towards environmental sustainability; fostering national and international co-operation to reduce economic and social inequalities...

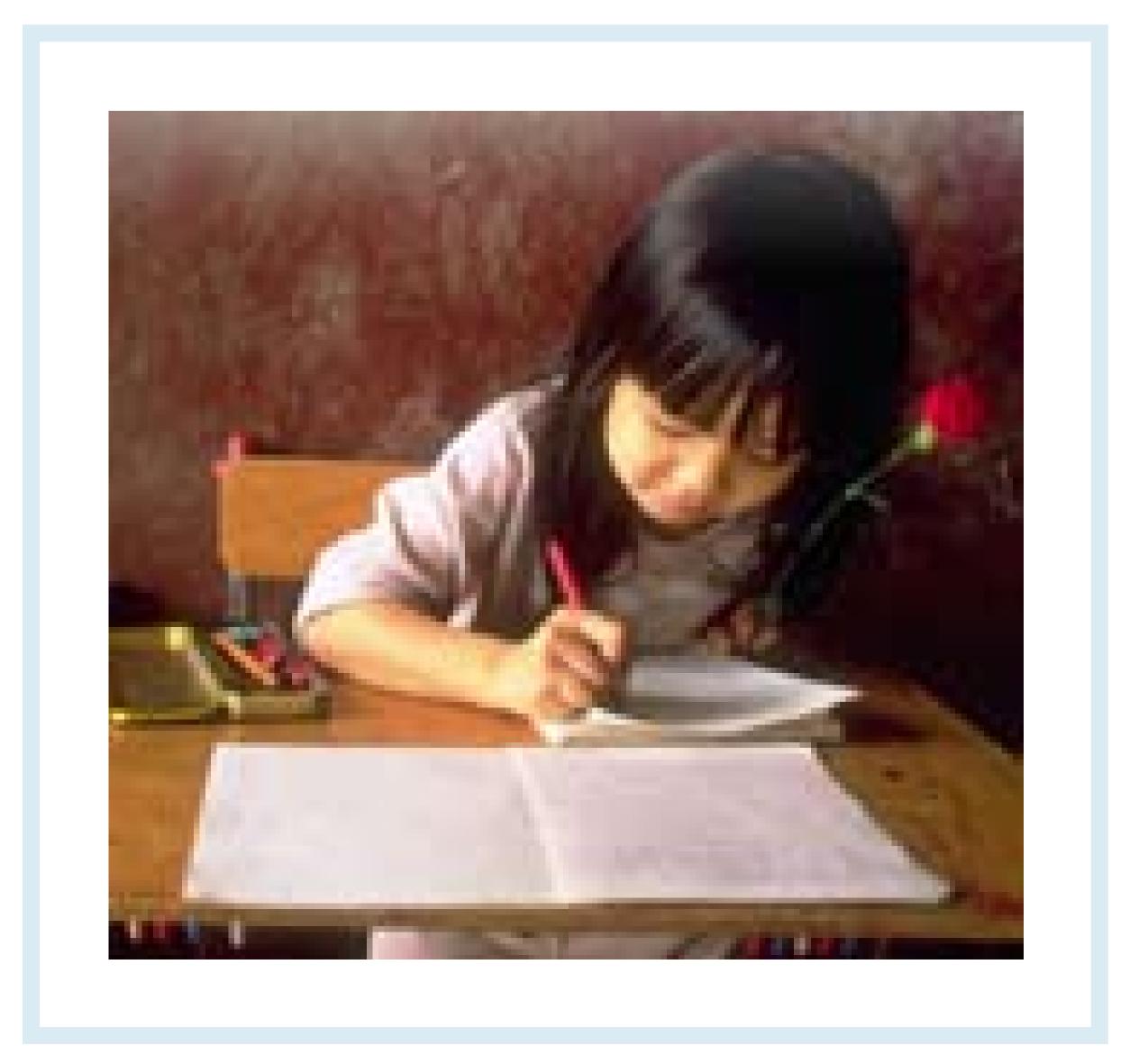
What steps can you start taking today to help safeguard the future of our planet? Do you know what the Earth Charter is? Can you find out?



### Promoting respect for all human rights

by distributing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at all levels and fully implementing international instruments on human rights...

Do you think violence in movies and television affects children? Is there anything you can do about violence in the media?



## Ensuring equality between women and men

by integrating a gender perspective and promoting equality in economic, social and political decision-making; eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women; supporting and aiding women in crisis situations resulting from war and all other forms of violence...

What are some examples in your community of ways that women are not equal to men? Do you believe that women have a special role in creating a culture of peace? Why?



### Fostering democratic participation

by educating responsible citizens; reinforcing actions to promote democratic principles and practices; establishing and strengthening national institutions and processes that promote and sustain democracy...

Do schools in your area teach democratic citizenship? What can you do to help children learn responsibility?



## Advancing understanding, tolerance and solidarity

by promoting a dialogue among civilizations; actions in favor of vulnerable groups; respect for difference and cultural diversity...

Do you have friends from other countries or cultures? What are you doing to fight prejudice and stereotyping?



## Supporting participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge

by means of such actions as support for independent media in the promotion of a culture of peace; effective use of media and mass communications; measures to address the issue of violence in the media; knowledge and information sharing through new technologies...

Do you know how to access the Internet on a computer? What could you do to help people in poorer countries get the equipment and the knowledge that you have?



## Promoting international peace and security

through action such as the promotion of general and complete disarmament; greater involvement of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts and in promoting a culture of peace in post-conflict situations; initiatives in conflict situations; encouraging confidence-building measures and efforts for negotiating peaceful settlements...

What are you doing to promote peace? UNESCO has educational resources for many of these action areas. Visit www.unesco.org

### Building a Culture of Peace

### For the Children of the World

"IT ISN'T ENOUGH TO
TALK ABOUT PEACE.
ONE MUST BELIEVE IN
IT. AND IT ISN'T ENOUGH
TO BELIEVE IN IT. ONE
MUST WORK AT IT."

Eleanor Roosevelt

"THE LIFE OF ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE IS THE FRUIT OF AN INNER PEACE AND SPIRITUAL UNITY..."

Mairead Maguire

"THESE ARE ALL OUR CHILDREN. WE WILL ALL PROFIT BY, OR PAY FOR, WHATEVER THEY BECOME."

James Baldwin

"IF WE HAVE NO PEACE,
IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE
FORGOTTEN THAT
WE BELONG TO EACH
OTHER."

Mother Teresa

"Heroism has nothing to do with skin color or social status. It is a state of mind and a willingness to act for what is right and just."

Maya Angelou

"To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one earth community with a common destiny..."

From the Preamble of the Earth Charter

"IMAGINE ALL THE
PEOPLE LIVING LIFE
IN PEACE. YOU MAY
SAY I'M A DREAMER,
BUT I'M NOT THE
ONLY ONE. I HOPE
SOMEDAY YOU'LL JOIN
US, AND THE WORLD
WILL BE AS ONE."

John Lennon

"I PRAYED FOR
TWENTY YEARS BUT
RECEIVED NO ANSWER
UNTIL I PRAYED WITH
MY LEGS."

Frederick Douglass

"ESTABLISHING
LASTING PEACE IS THE
WORK OF EDUCATION;
ALL POLITICS CAN DO IS
KEEP US OUT OF WAR."

Maria Montessori



### Paths to Peace

"Today's real borders are not between nations, but between powerful and powerless, free and fettered, privileged and humiliated. Today, no walls can separate humanitarian or human rights crises in one part of the world from national security crises in another...

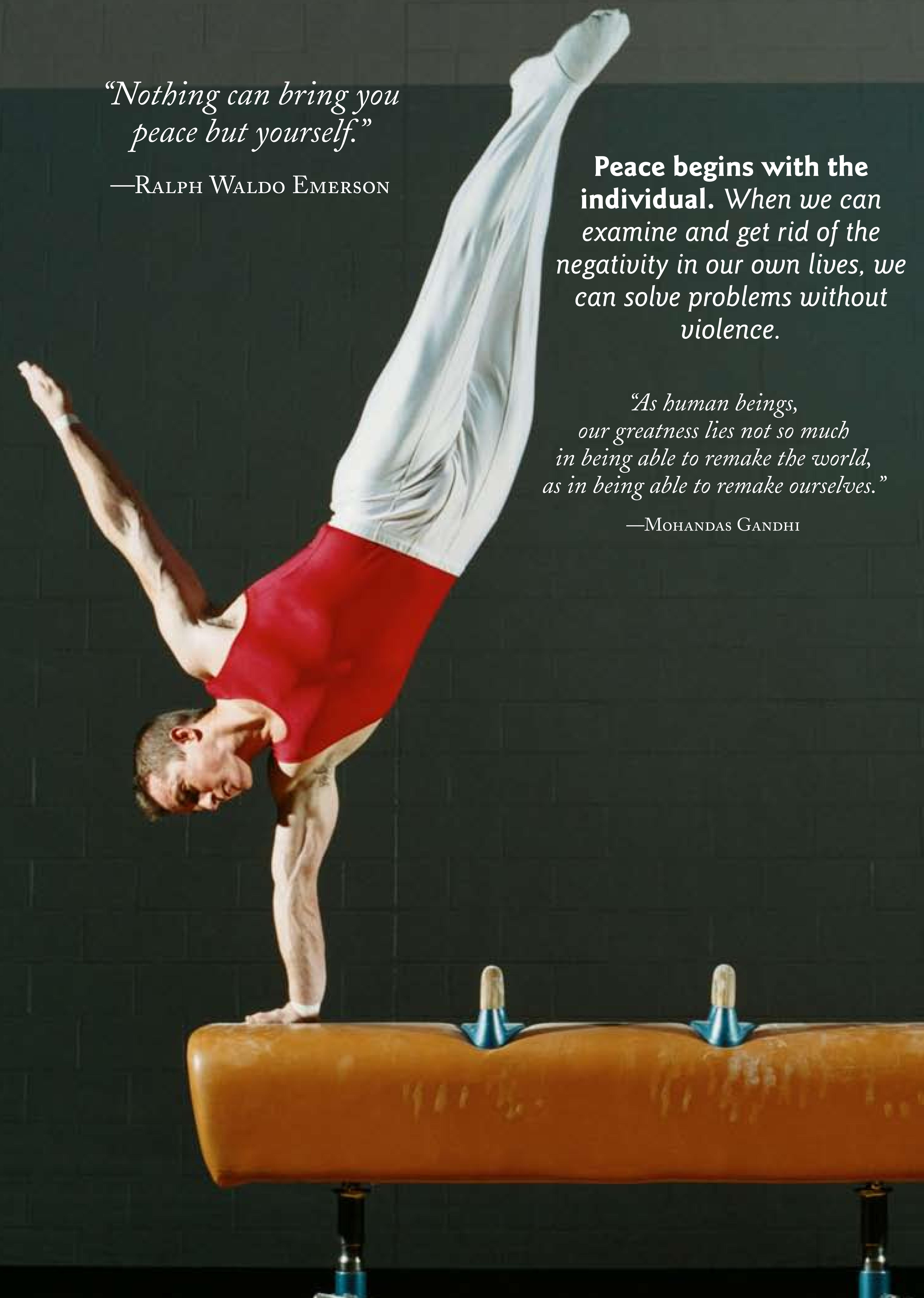
In this new century, we must start from the understanding that peace belongs not only to states or peoples, but to each and every member of those communities. Peace must be made real and tangible in the daily existence of every individual in need.

Peace must be sought, above all, because it is the condition for every member of the human family to live a life of dignity and security."

-Kofi Annan





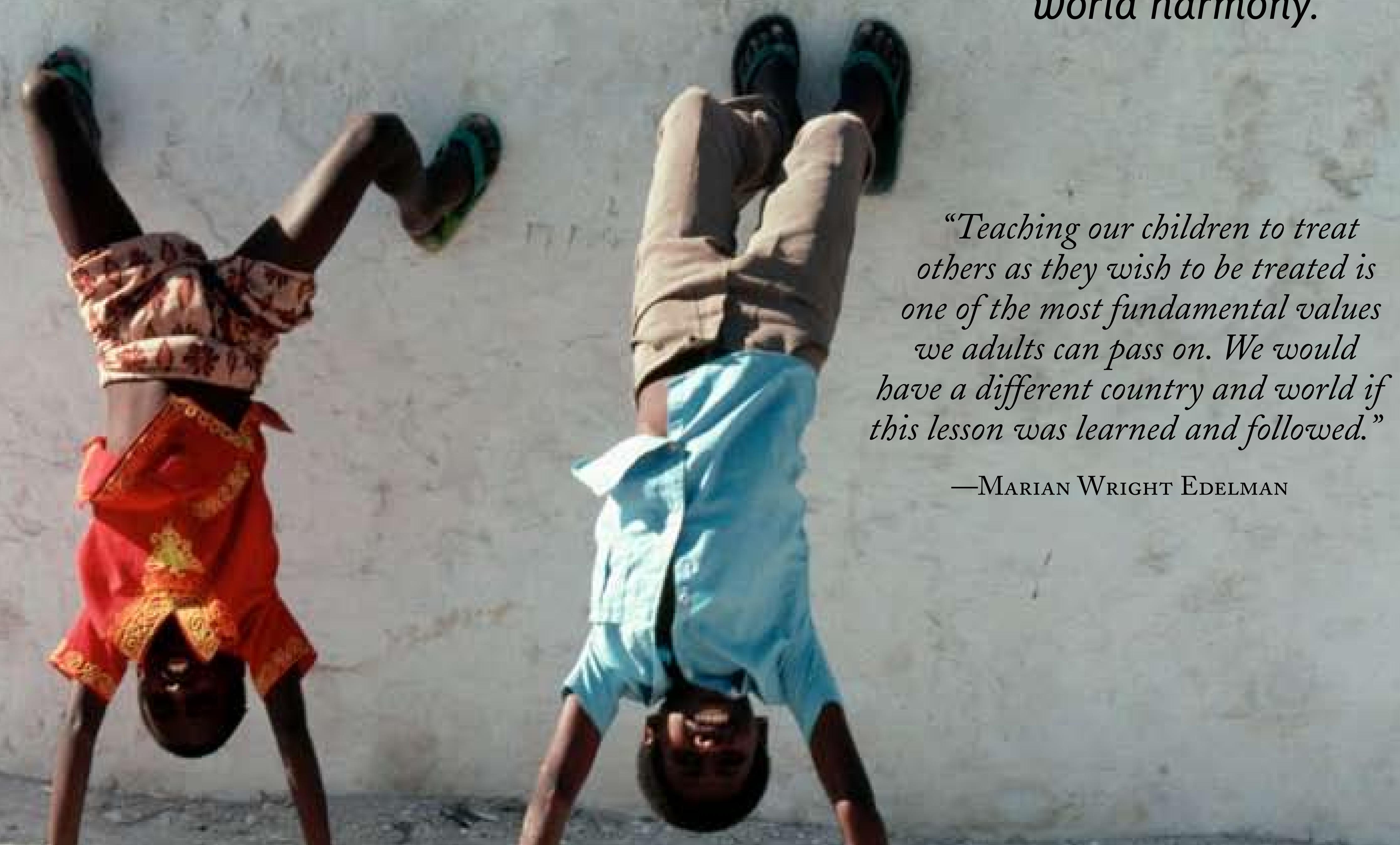


## Dialogue and Tolerance

"I believe that the widespread use of cross-cultural dialogue will foster the global community we so earnestly seek."

-MICHAEL NOBEL

Intolerance and discrimination happen when people see one another as objects, as "other." As we frankly exchange ideas and get to know one another as people like ourselves we establish true world harmony.



### Community

"I hear people talking about the community, and I stop and think and I feel that we each use a different language. Community means balance."

—RIGOBERTA MENCHU TUM

**To have peace** we must end economic and military competition and acknowledge our planetary interconnections. As citizens of the world we must consider the needs of the entire planet and of all humankind.



### Culture

### Moving from a culture of war

to a culture of peace means vast internal transformations in individuals as well as nations. We must move from an era of cultural imperialism, in which powerful nations impose their will on weaker countries, to an era of cultural exchange and respect.

"At a time when people of very different traditions, faiths and ideals have come into sudden and close contact with one another, the survival of humankind requires that people be willing to live with one another and to accept that there is more than one path to truth and salvation."

—Arnold Toynbee

"A single, all-embracing global civilization has arisen."

-VACLAV HAVEL



### Nations

What will the role of nations be in the new millennium? There will always be a place for homelands dedicated to equality, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence. We must also transcend national boundaries to establish principles and universal ideals that are global in scope.

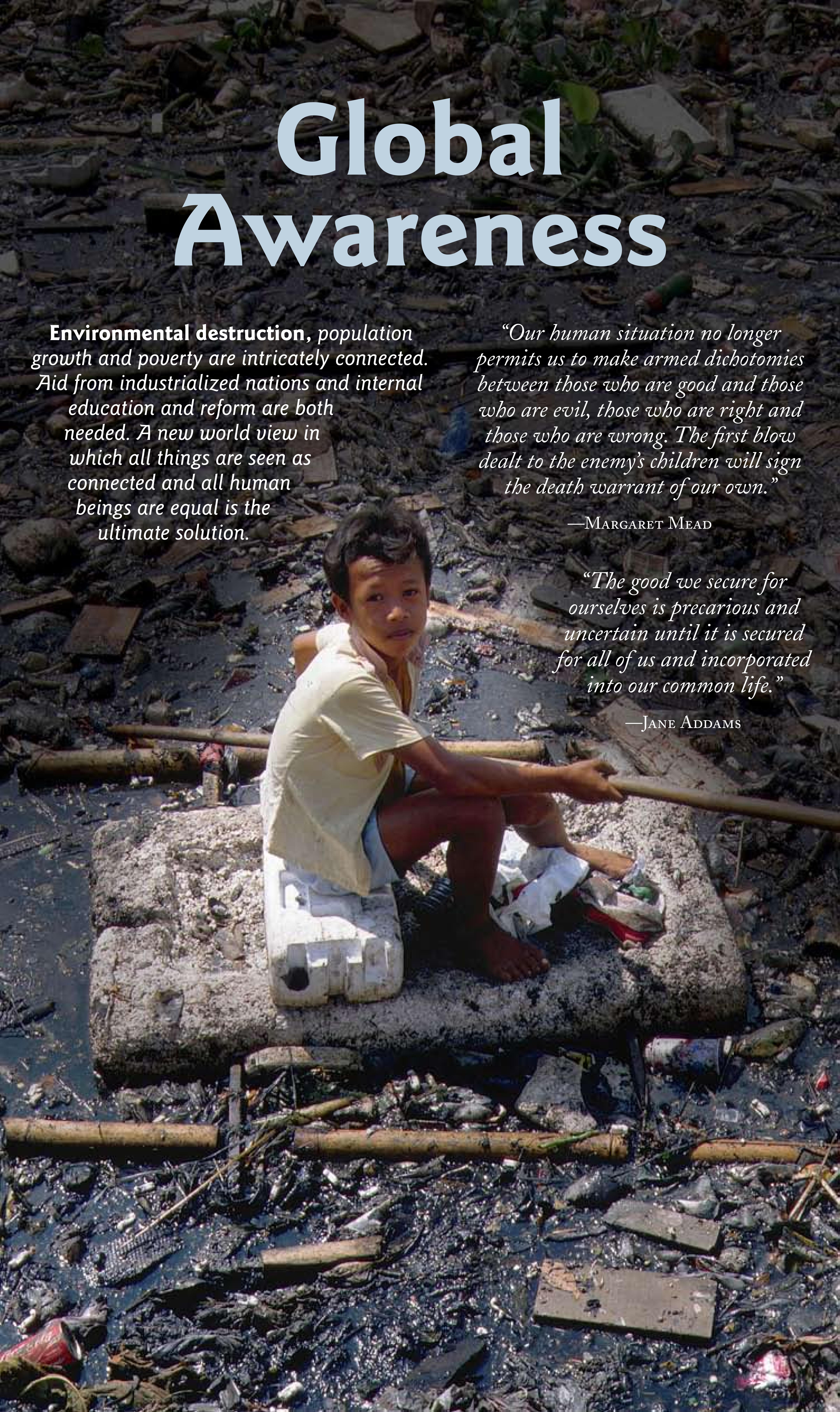
"More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginning of all wars – yes, an end to this brutal, inhuman and thoroughly impractical method of settling the differences between governments."

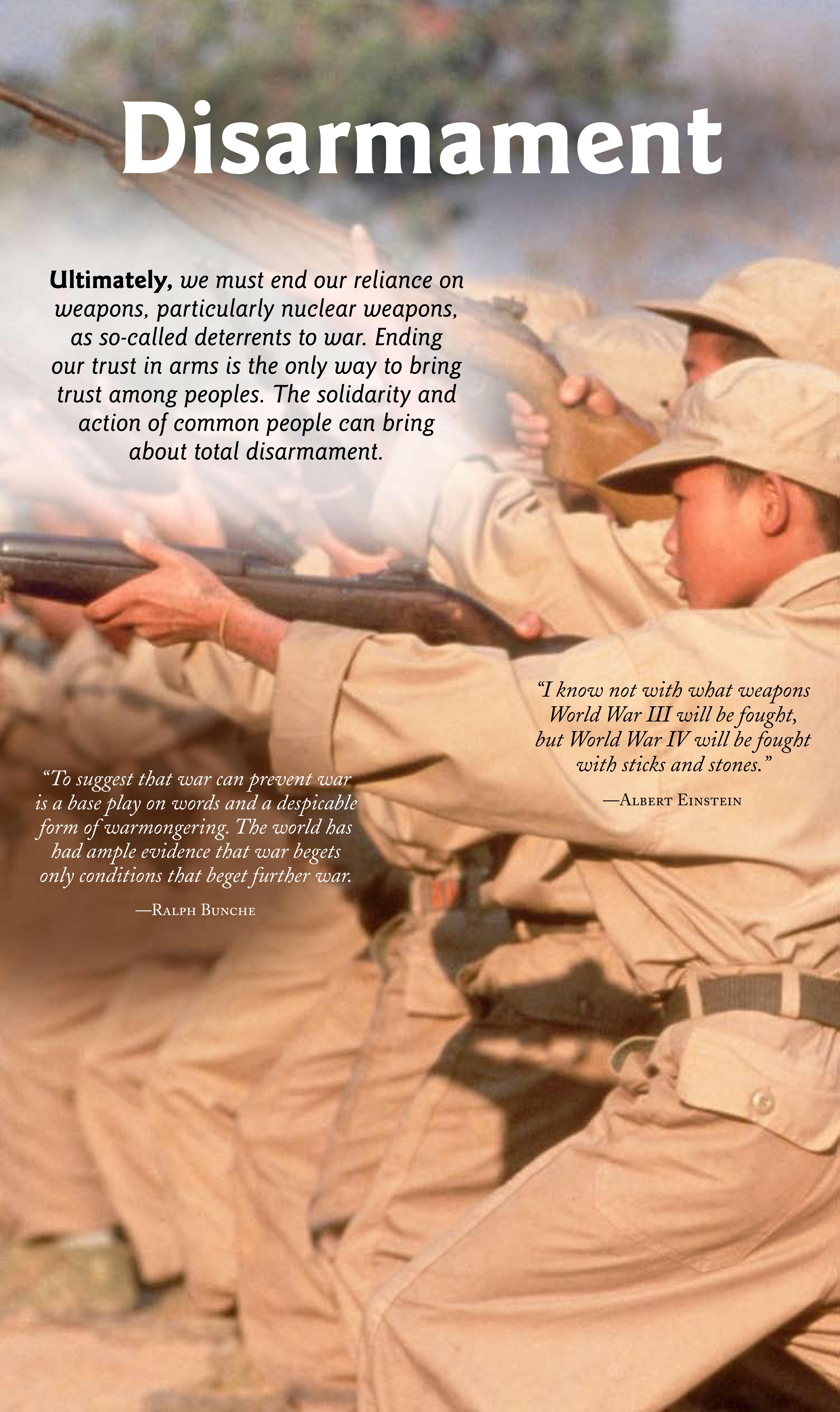
—Franklin D. Roosevelt

"The love of one's country is a splendid thing. But why should love stop at the border?"

—Pablo Casals







## Religions and Peace

"Throughout history, religious differences have divided men and women from their neighbors and have served as justification for some of humankind's bloodiest conflicts. In the modern world, it has become clear that people of all religions must bridge these differences and work together, to ensure our survival and realize the vision of peace that all faiths share."



### Shared Visions torreace

There are dozens of major religions in the world and thousands of belief systems by which people guide their lives, design ethical codes and find comfort from pain. We must learn to use one another's religious beliefs as ways to connect—not as reasons for conflict.



"Do not do to others what you do not want them to do to you." Confucius - Analects





"Not one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself." Islam - Fourth Hadith



treat all creatures as he himself would be treated." Jainism - Sutraktanga



duty: do nothing to others which would cause you pain if done to you."

"This is the sum of

Hindu - Mahabharata



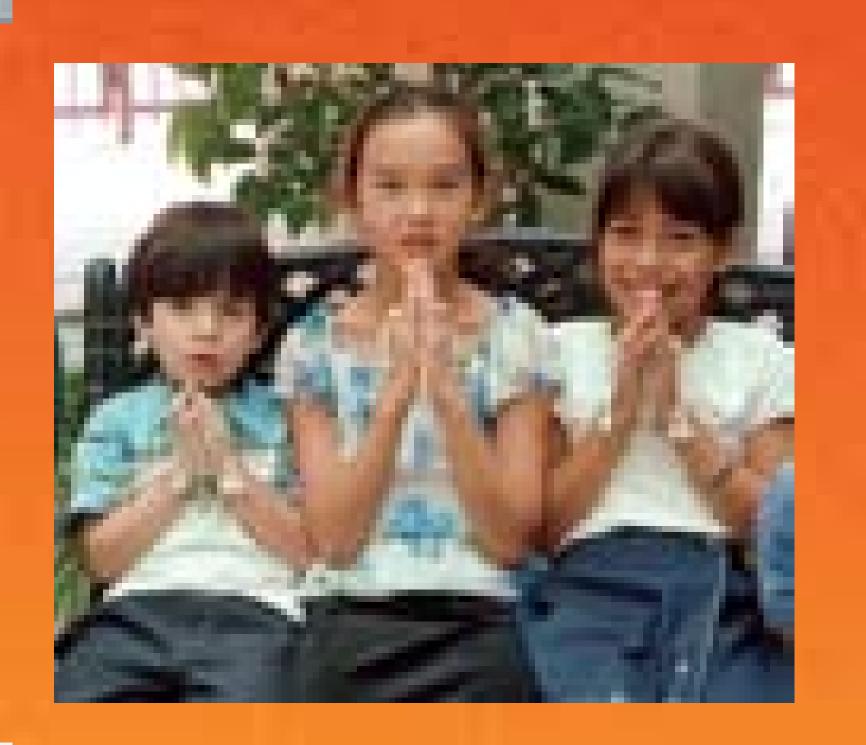
"When you light the path before another person you brighten your own."

Buddhist - Nichiren



"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Christian - Matthew



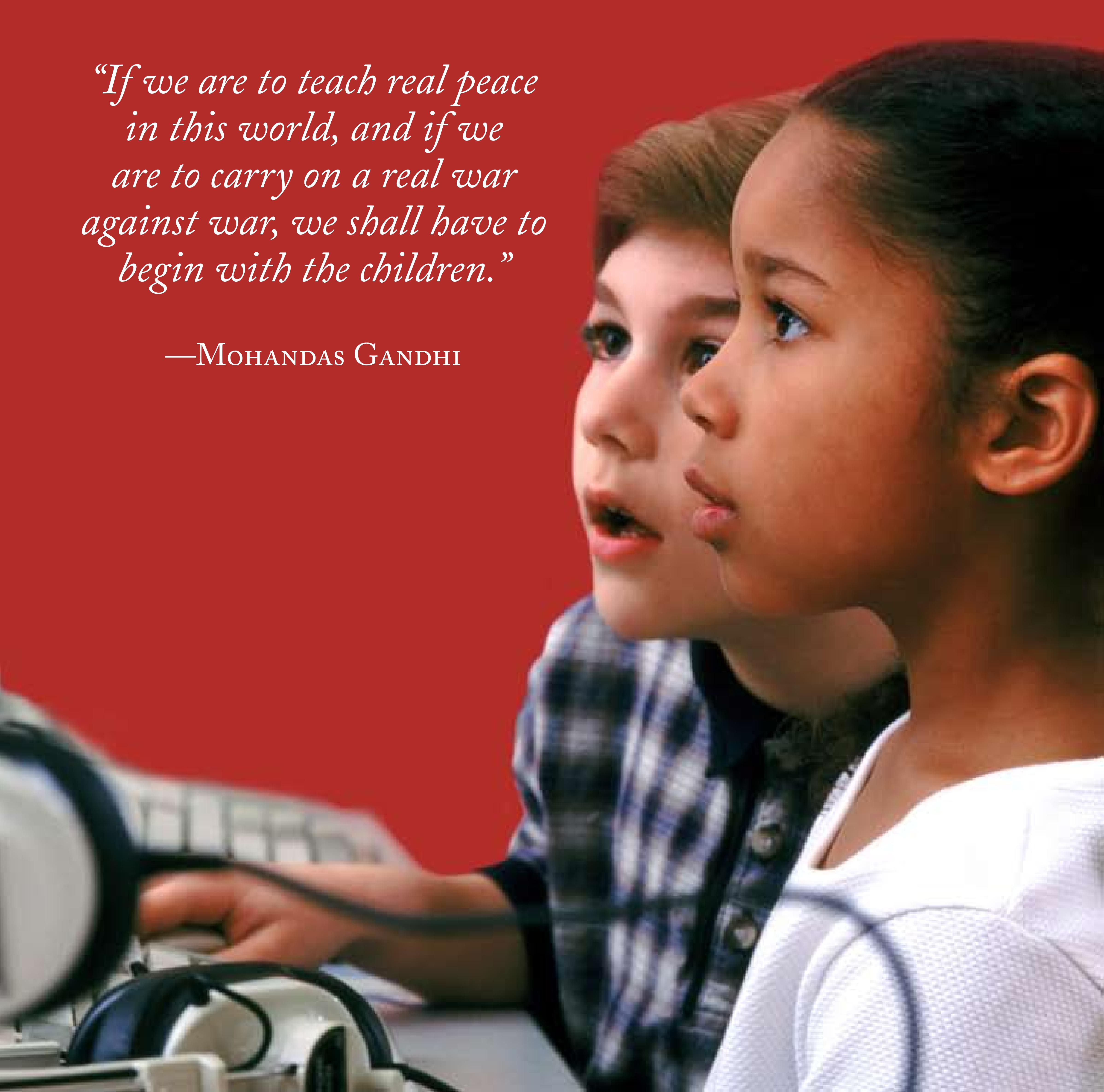
"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jewish - Leviticus



## Children are the Future

"Our children and grandchildren – and unborn generations to come – are depending on us...to make the wise decisions that will determine their future. The choice is in our hands.

—JAMES P. GRANT



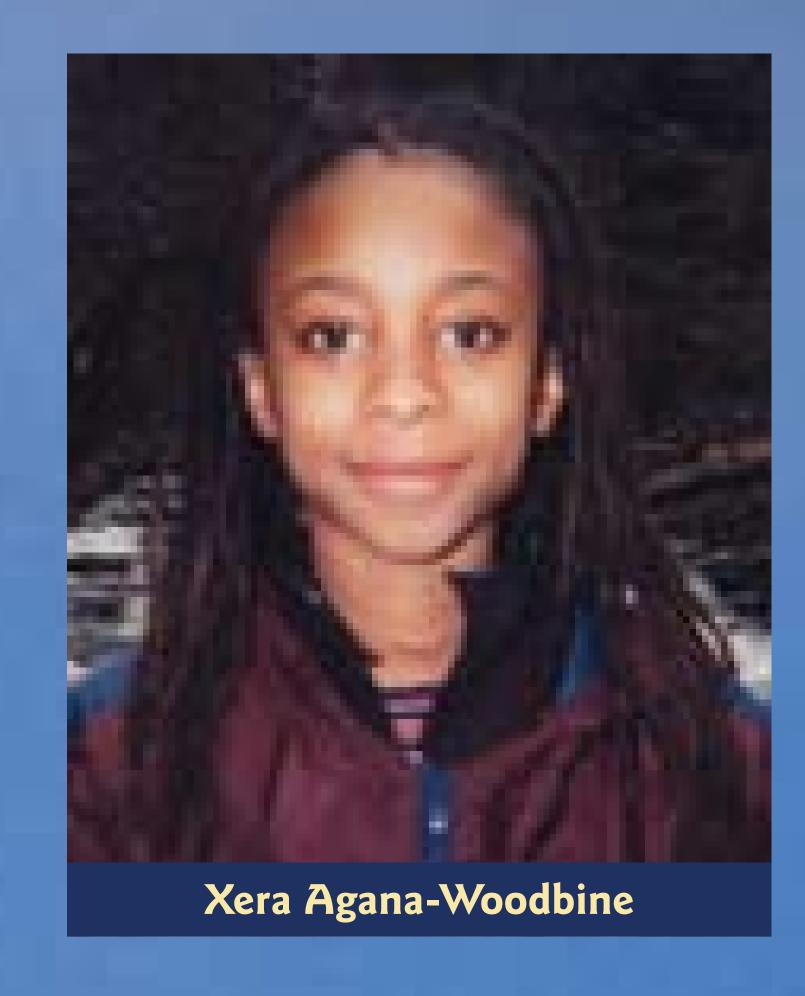
## Children's Dreams for Peace

Our children will inherit the earth.

The words of the children pictured here remind us that we are all responsible for making sure that children everywhere grow up in peace and security. We work for peace so that children may live free from the terrible effects of war.

"No one has yet realized the wealth of sympathy, the kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child."

—EMMA GOLDMAN



Peace to me is not discriminating and segregating people because of their color or culture. Peace to me is helping others and not fighting when you don't like someone. If someone hits you shouldn't hit them back... The only way you can get peace is by respecting others...

The world should be one whole with every one sharing it...



My definition of a peaceful world is one with inhabitants that trust and care for one another, where poverty is a thing of the past, and where humans and animals live in harmony.

My definition of a peaceful world is one with clear skies, where justice is the one law, and where we all treasure life.



Harmony,
freedom they all called peace
when we all stand together uniting our land as
hard as we could from head to toes
nothing will destroy our land no bangs! or booms!
so be happy not sad
and do what I wrote
and you'll become a child of our
freedom land.



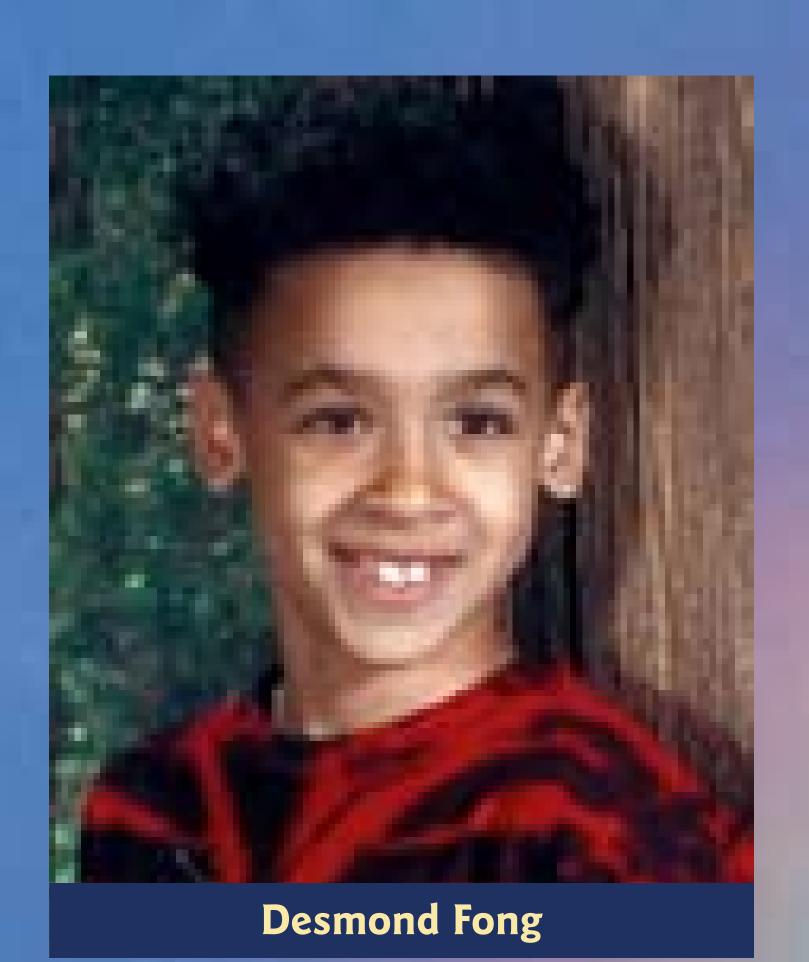
Peace is love.
Peace is family and friends...
Peace is getting along.
Peace is you.
Peace is everyone.
Peace is animals
Peace is me.



One dream.
One Universe

When you open your eyes do you see what you see?

One World.



My biggest dream for peace is to one day see a world where we respect each other so much that we all choose hope—not bombs. Where we all say "yes" to peace, because we love each other too much to choose war.

My parents named me after a famous African fighter for peace named Desmond Tutu. Desmond Tutu...once said: "For the sake of the world, let us all become instruments for peace."

Well, I believe that if we fight for peace, not war, the world will be a lot safer and people will be less afraid.



I believe that world peace and the elimination of violent behavior can one day be achieved. I believe that I can contribute to this great dream through my actions as a human even though I am only nine (soon to be ten) years old. But I can't do it alone.

It is my wish to contribute to world peace. The best way for me to do this is by starting where I am now—in the fifth grade at the Casimir Pulaski School. I want to show my friends that there are other ways in which to solve their problems without using violence so they can then teach others to do the same. This is how I am working and will continue to work for world peace throughout my life.



My dream of peace is...no wars. Nobody would have to be excluded by race, color, or politics. People wouldn't feel like there isn't a place for them in the world.

People's cultures wouldn't have to be made fun of. People would not have to look on TV and see another and another person dying. Nobody would be afraid of being hurt physically or mentally... soldiers would not have to leave their families to go to war and have the chance of being killed.

People would put away all guns and use the weapon of love.

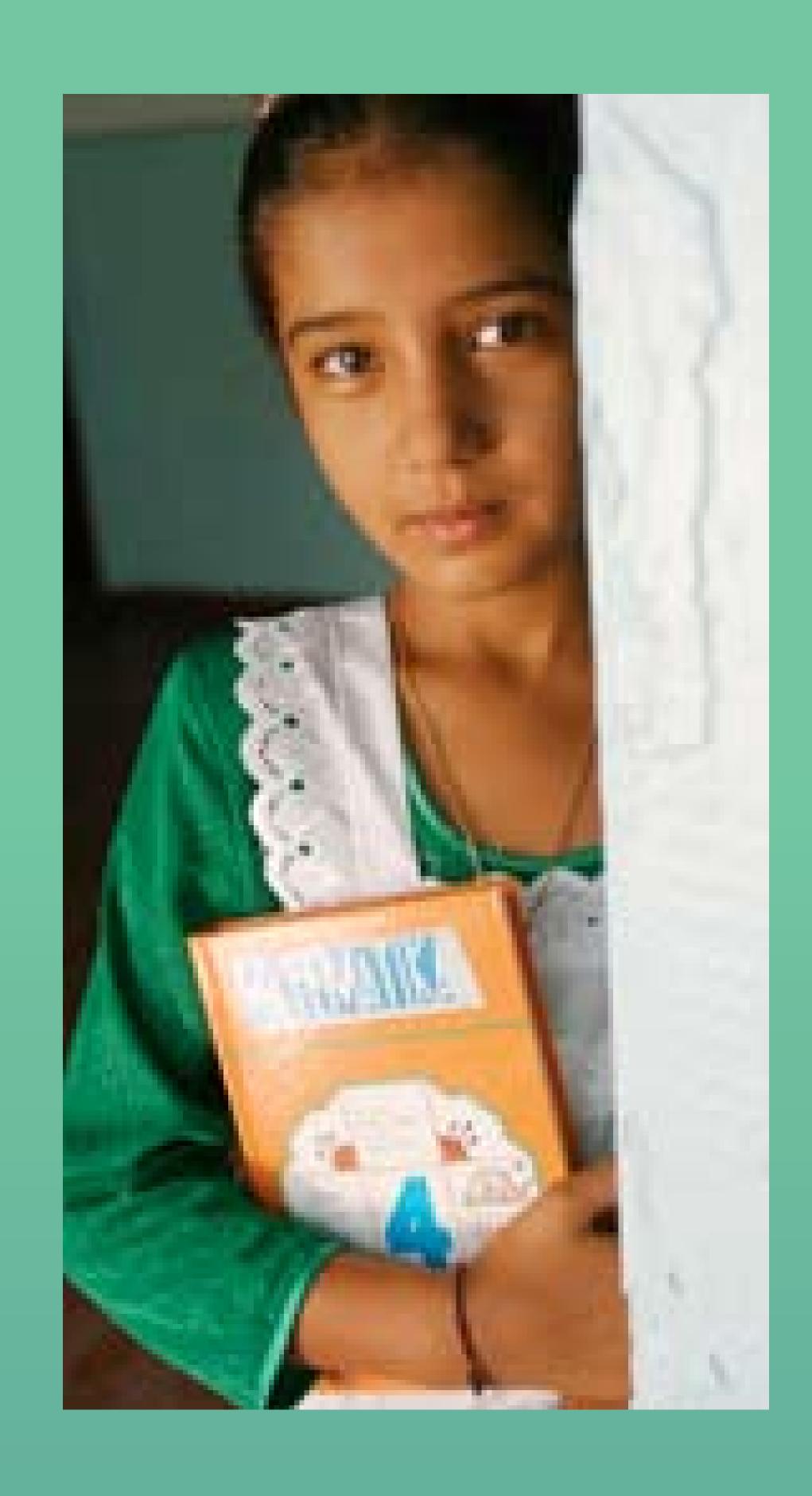


At home I'm peaceful when my family gets together at the dinner table...I think war is horrible. It is never the answer...
War is destruction, depression and anxiety. I think peace is creation, joy, hope, and unity. I want peace for the world.

I am happy when I play hockey with my friends, and I am so happy when I'm shopping with my family. And when I'm in school, doing computer class, and also when I'm playing my violin. I'm not happy when I'm mad, and I don't follow the direction.

Now I know happiness is in my heart.

## Manifesto 2000



The United Nations
General Assembly
proclaimed the decade 2001-2010
as the International Decade for a
Culture of Peace and Non-violence

Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World.

UNESCO was designated as lead agency for this Decade.

**Manifesto 2000** for a culture of peace and non-violence was drafted by a group of Nobel Peace Prize laureates to translate the resolutions of the United Nations into everyday language and to make them relevant to people everywhere.

Manifesto 2000 does not appeal to a higher authority. It is an individual commitment and responsibility.

**Manifesto 2000** is open to signatures from the wider public throughout the world. By September 2003, over 75 million individuals around the world had signed the Manifesto. You are invited to join the Nobel Prize winners, heads of state, and common people everywhere and to become a Messenger of Manifesto 2000.

## Manifesto 2000



### I Please

IN MY DAILY LIFE, IN MY FAMILY, MY WORK, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY AND MY REGION, TO:

- Respect the life and dignity of each human being without discrimination or prejudice;
- Practice active non-violence, rejecting violence in all its forms: physical, sexual, psychological, economical and social, in particular towards the most deprived and vulnerable such as children and adolescents;
- Share my time and material resources in a spirit of generosity to put an end to exclusion, injustice and political and economic oppression;
- Defend freedom of expression and cultural diversity, giving preference always to dialogue and listening without engaging in fanaticism, defamation and the rejection of others;
- Promote consumer behavior that is responsible and development practices that respect all forms of life and preserve the balance of nature on the planet;
- Contribute to the development of my community, with the full participation of women and respect for democratic principles, in order to create together new forms of solidarity.

Do I have negative assumptions about people because of their color, religion or appearance? How do my prejudices influence my perceptions?

Name-calling and teasing is a form of the passive violence that is at the root of physical violence. Do I protect those I see as being weaker than me or do I bully them?

Do I make an effort to include those who are excluded? Do I speak up for those who are being are treated badly by others?

What is my attitude to those I see as being different from me? Try to make friends or have a dialogue with someone you wouldn't usually talk to.

Where do the things I buy, eat and wear come from? Have I ever thought about the different people who helped produce these things? What happens to my garbage? I am part of an interconnected global society.

Are there people in my community or neighborhood who I see but have never spoken to? Take time to get to make friends with the people in your community.

www3.unesco.org/manifesto2000/

## Power People

### Taking Action for Peace

The time has come for the ordinary people, those who have been tossed about on the waves of war and violence in the twentieth century, to take the leading role in history.

The people pictured here have worked for peace in their communities and in the world. All of them have made and are making a real difference in the world. There are millions more like them, working toward a peaceful world.

You too can help to create a culture of peace.

EUROPE

#### Pierre Marchand



Overcomes Violent Childhood to Work for Peace

"We believe that each child can discover, by themselves, that violence is not inevitable. We can offer hope, not only to the children of the world, but to all of humanity, by beginning to create, and build, a new culture of nonviolence."

Text of For the Children of the World, an appeal to the United Nations

Pierre Marchand is from Compiegne, near Paris. As a boy he experienced severe violence including rape and torture. His life might well have continued in a destructive direction, but he rose above his pain.

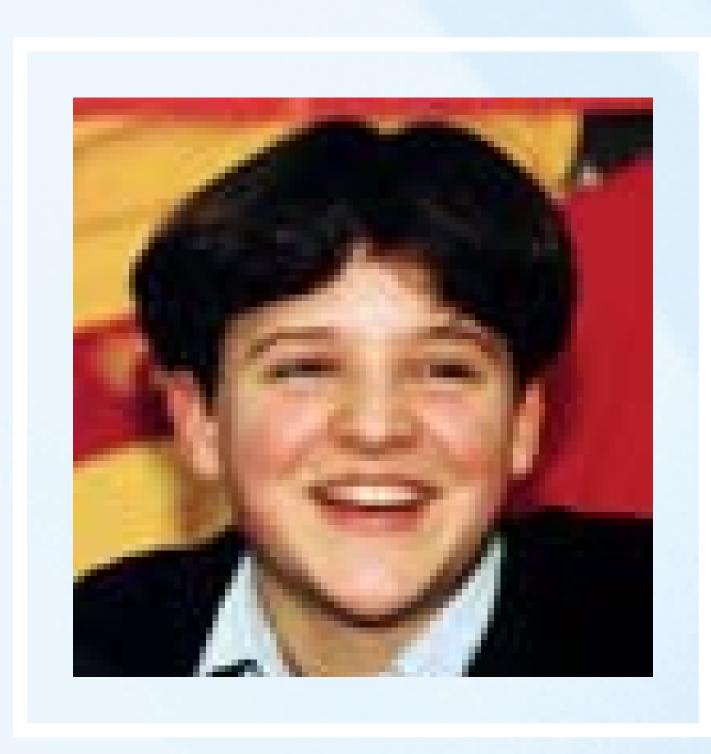
Marchand learned about the nonviolent resistance to evil practiced by Gandhi and King. He became active in Amnesty International and in the French Fellowship of Reconciliation. He founded Partage, an organization to help children affected by war and disaster around the world.

Marchand heard Thich Nhat Hanh talk about teaching nonviolence to children in school and about the importance of each school setting aside a place for meditation and conflict resolution. He heard Marie Pierre Bovy of the Community of the Ark, call for a "Year of Nonviolence."

Combining these ideas, Marchand went to Belfast, Northern Ireland, to talk with Mairead Corrigan-Maguire. She agreed to lead a Nobel Peace Laureates campaign for a Decade of Nonviolence. After writing the text of the appeal in a Children's Village in India, Pierre began visiting Nobel Peace Laureates to get their signatures. All of them signed on—an unprecedented show of unity. Eventually the United Nations proclaimed 2001-2010 as the Decade of a Culture of Peace and Non-violence, largely because one man stood up for peace.

EUROPE

### Zlata Filipovic



War Survivor Works for Peace Through Reconciliation "I'm always thinking about Sarajevo and about all my family and I'm waiting for everything to be over...

We were afraid each day. Imagine how it looks when you're afraid constantly for three years"

Zlata Filipovic was a 10-year-old Bosnian schoolgirl when she began keeping her Sarajevo diary in 1991. She wrote about everyday activities—school, piano lessons, skiing, parties, and watching her favorite TV shows. Then the chaos and terror of war shattered her world.

In spite of tragedy and deprivation, Filipovic kept writing in her diary, carefully chronicling the claustrophobia, boredom, resignation, anger, despair, and fear war brings. With vision beyond her years, she wrote that the "political situation is stupidity in motion."

After the war's end Filipovic's diary was published by UNICEF, then in France and the United States. After experiencing war so closely she now uses her spare time to work for peace and helps foster communication between different peoples. She has been part of UNICEF and UNESCO projects and is studying Human Sciences at St. John's College, Oxford, England.

### Veneranda Nzambazamariya



Leader of Rwanda's Women's Movement

### "Like Martin Luther King, the women

of Rwanda had a dream: that that nightmare will never happen again, in Rwanda and elsewhere."

In 1994 more than a million people were killed in what the current Rwanda government calls "the fastest and most vicious genocide yet recorded in human history." Vernanda Nzambazamariya was among a handful of women who, immediately after the genocide, urged Rwandan women to rise above ethnic differences and come together to rebuild the country.

Nzambazamariya, born in 1958, was a founding member of Reseau des Femmes and Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe ("All Together"), two dynamic women's organizations in Rwanda. She was active in promoting women's issues throughout the

continent and was a committed member of the Women's Committee for Peace and Development.

Nzambazamariya dedicated herself to empowering women politically and economically and to restructuring Rwanda's political, economic and social infrastructures and laws that were biased against women.

Veneranda Nzambazamariya died in a Kenya Airways crash in January 2000. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) posthumously awarded her the Millennium Peace Prize for Women in 2001.

#### AFRICA

### Kimmie Weeks



African Youth Flees Homeland to Work for Peace

"Young people here have to realize their blessings and appreciate them and they have to extend a helping hand to children out there.... I saw children spend long days on the streets of the capital under the blazing African sun trying to sell goods for their families to survive, while thousands of others carried guns, fighting and killing one another."

Kimmie Weeks was born in the West African nation of Liberia. From 1989 until 1997, the people of Liberia lived in a state of civil war, which took the lives of one tenth ten percent—of the population. The conflict was so ugly that 20,000 children under the age of 18 were turned into soldiers.

Weeks describes his own childhood as one of war, poverty and suffering. At age ten he decided to make a difference. He founded two children's organizations to fight for the rights

of children. He created a news service for youth. And in 1996, he launched the Children's Disarmament Campaign to get guns out of the hands of child soldiers. That campaign succeeded.

Weeks was honored for his efforts at the Goodwill Games as a UNICEF Young Ambassador. In 1997 he published a new report on the training of child soldiers and had to flee Liberia, his life in jeopardy.

Kimmie Weeks has been granted political asylum in the United States. In 2002 he co-founded Youth Action International. The goal of the organization is to propose and implement programs aimed at making the world a better place for children and future generations.

#### ASIA

#### Nanda Pok



Returns to Cambodia to Empower Women

#### "We are educating women

ahead of the election so they will be aware of important issues that empower women..."

Nanda Pok's family fled to France and then to the United States in 1975, when she was 14 years old, just before Pol Pot took control of Cambodia. In the 1980s, Pok's mother began a refugee resettlement program in Houston, Texas. Following her mother's example, Pok returned to Cambodia in 1992 in order to be part of the reconstruction and development of her homeland.

She is the founder and executive director of Women for Prosperity, an organization that promotes women's political participation in Cambodia. She has trained more than 5,500

women to run for political office; in February 2002, twothirds of the nearly 1,000 women elected were trained by her organization.

Pok acted as an official monitor during the general election in 1998 and chaired the Coordinating Committee for the Commune Council Election, which provided voter education to the public and trained and placed observers at every polling station during the 2002 election.

Pok has also taken a courageous stance against the trafficking of women and girls in Asia, and is working to ensure that her own government and the international community take action.

#### ASIA

### Mashuda Khatun Shefali



Helping Women Develop Their Own Economic Base

"First look after yourself. Look into your heart and know who you are, and what you have done, and love yourself..."

Mashuda Khatun Shefali overcame terrific obstacles to return to school and become a professional. She is now demonstrating how half a million young women garment workers can obtain safe housing while improving their self awareness and skills. She is helping these Bangladeshi women develop their own economic base and emerge as truly independent actors.

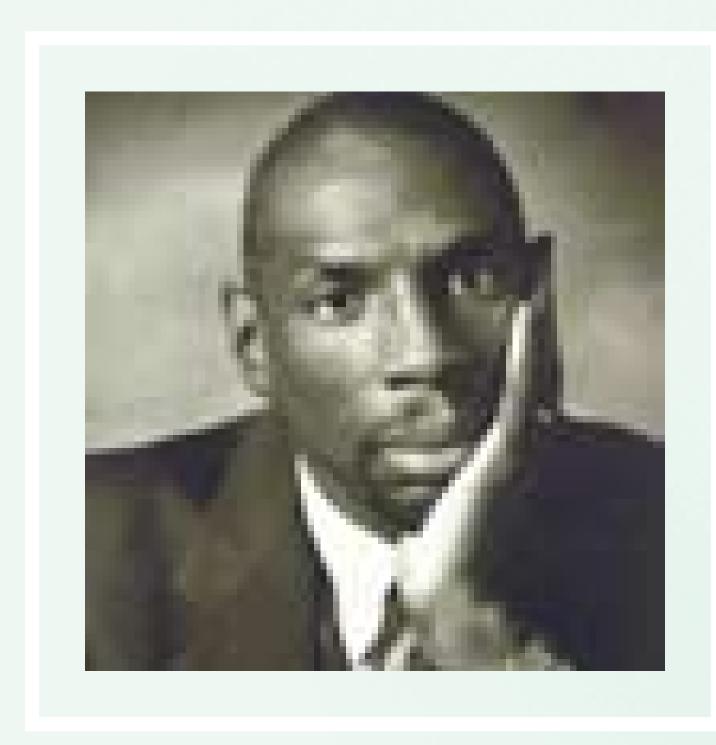
Shefali grew up in rural Bangladesh, but she escaped the restrictions its social traditions place on women for two reasons: she has a fighting spirit, and her parents supported her. When she neared the transition from childhood and was to be withdrawn from school, she resisted. When she was to be married, she resisted again. Two years later

she left for Dhaka where she resumed her education, ultimately receiving a master's in history from Jahangir Nagar University.

In 1981, she got involved at the national level in the rural women's development movement through the Bangladesh Women's Rehabilitation and Welfare Foundation. Over the ensuing decade she worked with several development organizations, but kept her special personal focus on giving rural women an alternative when denied education and any life opportunities. She is pioneering a solution to their plight by creating the first low-cost, safe, decent hostels for working women in Dhaka City. Beyond housing, Shefali addresses the women's socio-economic problems with linked services that empower them to maintain their hardearned financial independence and freedom.

NORTH AMERICA

### Geoffrey Canada



Children's Advocate Works to End Violence

"People can be taught to kill. And children growing up under the conditions of war that we find in many poor communities today learn to think about death and killing as a matter of survival."

Child and anti-violence advocate Geoffrey Canada grew up on welfare, in a household headed by a single woman in the tenements of New York's South Bronx. Despite the many things he did not have, he realized what he did have: a hardworking and loving mother who gave him a strong set of values, a sense of responsibility, a belief in the importance of education, and a deep desire to make things better not only for himself, but for those around him.

After graduate school, Canada returned to the community to live and work in Harlem. In 1963, Canada joined the staff of the Rheedlen Centers for Children and Families. He was

named its President and CEO in 1990.

At Rheedlen, he has been instrumental in creating or developing such programs as Rheedlen's Beacon School, Community Pride, the Harlem Freedom Schools, and Peacemakers. He is a coordinator for the Black Community Crusade for Children, a nationwide effort to make saving black children the number one priority in the black community

Canada has focused his work on exposing the intersection of drugs and guns as a turning point in the violence in America, and championing community-building as a key response to this violence. The *Boston Globe* called Canada "the brother who never left the 'hood because he keeps looking into the faces of the children and seeing himself there."

NORTH AMERICA

### Nickole Evans



Teen Uses Internet to Promote Peace and Nonviolence

"What is more important to me [than awards] is I have gotten friends to help the community. The more of us that are helping others, the better our world will be."

Nickole Evans grew up in a low-income area of Kennewick, a town in Southeastern Washington. Kennewick is a place where immigrants and refugees often arrive when relocating to the United States. Since early childhood, Evans has played with children from Nigeria, Ukraine, Mexico, Bosnia, and Kosovo.

On February 1998, Evans and a friend were beaten by a gang of Bosnian kids. In spite of having been hurt, Evans chose peace over retaliation. She reconciled with the families of the people who assaulted her, and doubled her efforts to help Bosnian young people traumatized by war live peacefully in her neighborhood.

When she was 14 Evans created a Web site to help young people share their feelings about violence—both in school and elsewhere. This site, www.y2kyouth.org, covers issues that concern young people, from race and religion to overpopulation. Evens educated herself about computer technology, and now teaches others how to use the Web to advocate peace and non-violence. She averages 200 hours volunteering per year. In 1999 she won the Global Youth Peace and Tolerance Award.

SOUTH AMERICA

#### Gerson Andrés Flórez Pérez



Colombian Youngster Leads Children's Peace Movement

"I have always thought that peace is more than absence of war... We can't speak of peace when our people day by day become poorer and poorer and have less opportunities to manage in life."

Gerson Andrés Flórez Pérez was born in 1986 in one of the poorest areas of Bogotá, Colombia. When he was 11 years old he saw a TV news story about a girl who was killed by a landmine. A few weeks later he read about another dead child and was inspired to do what he could to end the armed conflict in his country.

In June 1997 he wrote a peace proposal which he called "Children of Peace," asking that the voices and needs of children be considered. The proposal eventually attracted considerable media attention, and led to a national

referendum. 2,700,000 children all over Colombia voted, expressing their desire to live in harmony.

After selling pins to raise the money for the journey, Pérez and his father traveled to the Hague Appeal for Peace in the Netherlands. He continues to work for the abolition of antipersonal landmines. In 2002, he became the youngest law student at the Universidad Nueva Granada in Bogotá.

Pérez won the 1999 Global Youth Peace and Tolerance Award. He and the Children's Movement for Peace were also nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999.

SOUTH AMERICA

### Juanita Batzibal



Mayan Woman Works for Harmony and Women's Rights

"The situation in Guatemala is not only caused by 36 years of warfare, but also by the marginalization of indigenous people and their lack of access to resources, that has been going on for centuries. One of the main obstacles to peace is that many Guatemalans still need basic things.

And until they can have access to them, they feel hopeless."

The indigenous peoples of Guatemala, the Mayas, make up over 60 percent of a population of 10 million. Yet Guatemala has one of the world's most inequitable distributions of land, with three percent of the population owning over 70 percent of the land, and 90 percent of Mayas not even having enough land to grow food for their families.

Juanita Batzibal is an indigenous Guatemalan woman who

fled her homeland during the Guatemalan civil war in 1992 and became a political refugee. She spent eighteen years in exile in Costa Rica where she helped to create programs for preserving Mayan culture for the International Mayan League.

While in exile, Juanita made several visits to the UN in Geneva, lobbying for the recognition of Indigenous People's rights, and to bring an end to the war.

Today Batzibal works for human rights organizations in strengthening indigenous women's identity, in education and in recognizing the injustices of the past in order to build a society that respects difference.



### Building a Culture of Peace

### For the Children of the World

"SINCE WARS BEGIN IN THE MINDS
OF MEN, IT IS IN THE MINDS OF
MEN THAT THE DEFENSES OF PEACE
MUST BE CONSTRUCTED."

From the Preamble of the UNESCO Constitution



"A GREAT REVOLUTION OF CHARACTER IN JUST ONE SINGLE INDIVIDUAL WILL HELP ACHIEVE A CHANGE IN THE DESTINY OF A SOCIETY AND, FURTHER, WILL ENABLE A CHANGE IN THE DESTINY OF THE WHOLE OF HUMANKIND."

Daisaku Ikeda, President of SGI

This exhibition was produced by the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a Buddhist association of 82 constituent organizations with more than 12 million members worldwide. As a nongovernmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the SGI is engaged in activities to promote peace, education and cultural exchange. See: www.sgi.org

### Mother Teresa



The "Saint of the Gutters"

"It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving."

Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, who became Mother Teresa, was born in 1910 into a Roman Catholic Albanian family living in Skopje, capital of the Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. When she was seven, her father was murdered. At the age of 18 Bojaxhiu entered a Sisters of Loreto convent in Ireland. The Sisters of Loreto, a teaching order, sent her to Bengal in 1929.

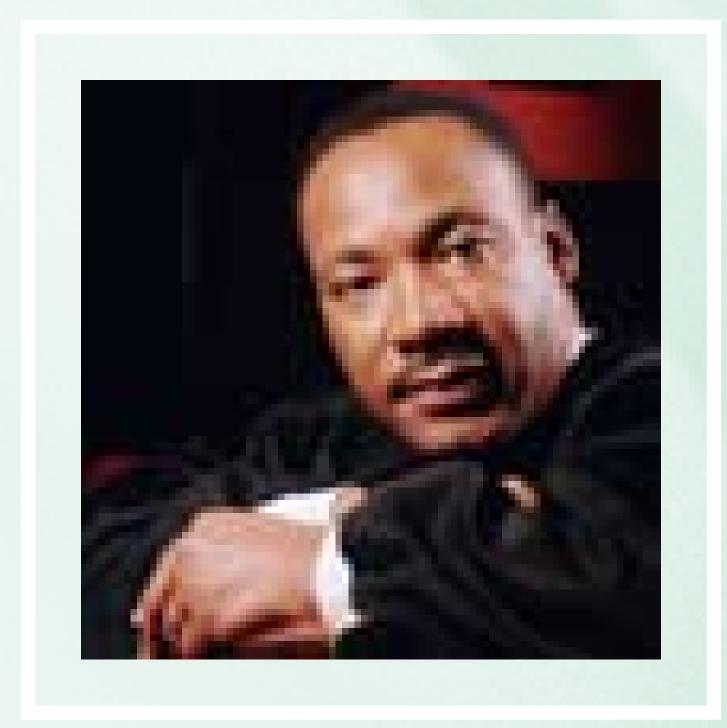
After sixteen years Mother Teresa left teaching to work in the Calcutta slums. In 1950 she started a new order, the Missionaries of Charity. Over the years, the Missionaries of Charity grew to thousands serving the "poorest of the poor" in 450 centers around the world.

Mother Teresa created many homes for the sick and poor from Calcutta to New York to Albania. She was one of the pioneers of establishing homes for AIDS victims. For more than 45 years, Mother Teresa comforted the poor, the dying, and the unwanted around the world.

Mother Teresa gained worldwide acclaim with her tireless efforts. She won the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1979. Mother Teresa died in 1997.

NORTH AMERICA

### Martin Luther King



Teacher of Non-Violence, Leader for Civil Rights

"We will not build a peaceful world by following a negative path. It is not enough to say 'We must not wage war.' It is necessary to love peace and sacrifice for it."

Martin Luther King's father and grandfather were both pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Born in 1929, King became pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama in 1954. In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

King took his principles from Christianity and his non-violent methods from Gandhi. He organized massive protests throughout the South, traveled thousands of miles, made hundreds of speeches, wrote five books and countless articles and was a tireless worker for the rights

of Black Americans. At thirty-five, he was the youngest person ever to win the Nobel Prize.

On the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead a protest march in sympathy with striking garbage workers of that city, he was assassinated.

AFRICA

#### Nelson Mandela



South African Leader Lives for Peace

"I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities; it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela was born in Transkei, South Africa in 1918. He earned a law degree from the University of South Africa in 1942 and was prominent in Johannesburg's youth wing of the African National Congress (ANC). In 1952 he became ANC deputy national president, advocating nonviolent resistance to apartheid.

However, after a group of peaceful demonstrators were massacred in 1960 in Sharpeville, Mandela organized a branch of the ANC to carry out guerrilla warfare against the white government. After being acquitted on charges of treason in 1961, he was arrested in 1964, convicted of sabotage and sentenced to life in prison. During his time

in prison he became the leading symbol of South Africa's oppressed black majority.

Nelson Mandela was released on February 18, 1990. After his release, he plunged himself wholeheartedly into his life's work for peace and justice. In 1991, Mandela was elected President of the ANC while his lifelong friend and colleague, Oliver Tambo, became the organization's National Chairperson.

Mandela won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. He was the first democratically elected President of South Africa from May 1994 through June 1999. In December 1999, Mandela was appointed by a group of African nations to mediate the ethnic strife in Burundi; the Arusha accords, a Tutsi-Hutu power-sharing agreement, were finalized in 2001. Now in his 80s, Mandela continues to work for peace.

NORTH AMERICA

#### Rosa Parks



"Mother of the Civil Rights Movement"

"People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true. I was not tired physically.... No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."

Rosa Louise McCauley was born in 1913 in Tuskegee, Alabama. She was the granddaughter of former slaves and the daughter of James McCauley, a carpenter, and Leona McCauley, a rural schoolteacher. She grew up in Montgomery, Alabama, where she attended the all-black Alabama State College. In 1932 she married Raymond Parks, a barber, with whom she became active in Montgomery's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

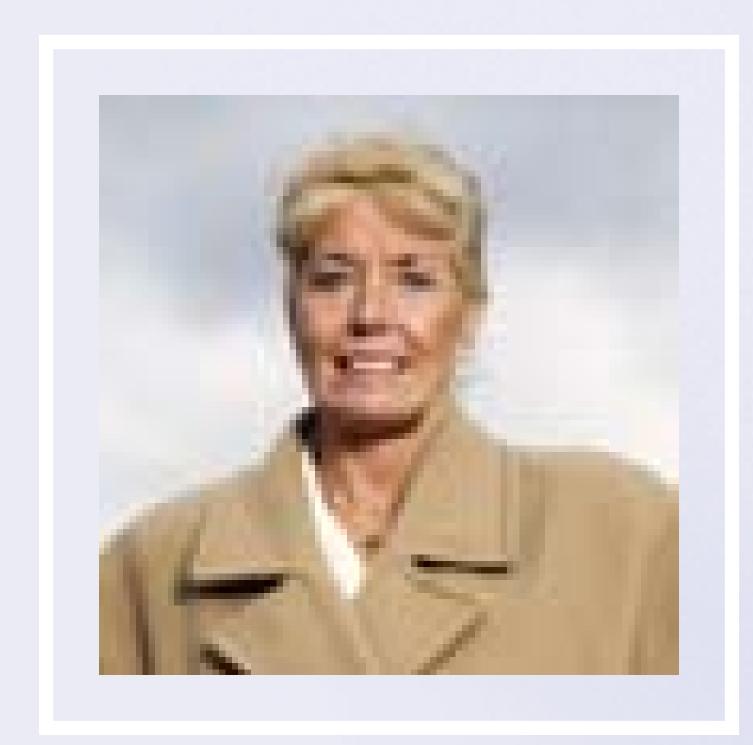
On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Parks was arrested for resisting an order to surrender her bus seat

to a white passenger. Her protest galvanized a growing movement to desegregate public transportation and marked a historic turning point in the African American battle for civil rights. Parks was much more than an accidental symbol, however. At the time of her arrest she was no ordinary bus rider; she was an experienced activist with strong beliefs.

In the 1980s she worked in support of the South African antl-apartheid movement, and in Detroit in 1987 she founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development, a career counseling center for black youth.

Parks remained a committed activist until her death in 2005 at age 92.

### Betty Williams



Northern Ireland
Peace Activist

"We are deeply, passionately dedicated to the cause of nonviolence, to the force of truth and love, to soul-force. To those who say that we are naive, utopian idealists, we say that we are the only realists, and that those who continue to support militarism in our time are supporting the progress towards total self-destruction of the human race."

Betty Williams was born in Belfast in 1943 and went to Catholic elementary and primary schools. When she won the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1976 she was a 33 year-old office receptionist, wife and mother of a 14 year-old son and a six-year-old daughter.

Williams shared the Nobel Prize with Mairead Corrigan, who peace. co-founded the Northern Ireland Peace Movement (later renamed Community of Peace People). The movement was

inspired by an incident in which an Irish Republican Army gunman was shot dead fleeing from British soldiers. His car smashed into a family out for a walk. Three children were killed and their mother critically injured.

Betty Williams came upon the scene after she heard the shot, and Corrigan was the aunt of the dead children. This senseless killing of innocent children produced a wave of revulsion against the violence that had been sweeping Northern Ireland.

Williams later emigrated to the United States, where she teaches in a university and has become a stirring lecturer on peace

NORTH AMERICA

### Elise Boulding



Peace Studies Pioneer

"Peace culture is about ways that people have learned to get along by listening to one another and dealing positively with their differences."

Elise Boulding is a noted American sociologist and pioneer in the peace studies movement. Born in Norway in 1920, she is a long-time Quaker activist, lecturer and author. After raising five children, she earned a doctorate in sociology at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where she participated in one of the first "teach-ins." She was the editor of a periodical newsletter that provided news and networking opportunities to international peace teams.

Boulding is emerita Professor of Sociology at Dartmouth

College. She was the Secretary-General of the International Peace Research Association, and International President of the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF). She is the author of *Cultures of Peace: the Hidden Side of History* and other books.

Boulding continues to lecture and consult. She has been called "one of the peace movement's wisest voices."

ASIA

### Anwarul Chowdhury



Diplomat Seeks Peace, Serves Least Developed Countries

"Global efforts towards peace and reconciliation can only succeed with a collective approach built on trust, dialogue and collaboration.... No social responsibility is greater nor task heavier than that of securing peace on our planet."

Anwarul Karim Chowdhury was born in 1943 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He is the United Nations Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

Chowdhury is a specialist in economic and social development, conflict prevention and international security matters. When serving as chair of the UN Security Council, he pioneered discussion in the Council on the role of

women in peacebuilding. In 2001, Chowdhury led the negotiations on behalf of the least developed countries at the Third United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, which adopted the comprehensive Brussels Programme of Action for the present decade.

Chowdhury led the United Nations' groundbreaking initiative on the culture of peace, chairing the negotiations that produced the landmark document "Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace," adopted by the UN. General Assembly in 1999. He is a regular contributor to journals on peace, development and human rights issues, and a speaker at academic institutions and other forums.

EUROPE

#### Mikhail Gorbachev



Former Soviet Premier Helped to End the Cold War

"Peace is movement towards globality and universality of civilization. Never before has the idea that peace is indivisible been so true as it is now. Peace is not unity in similarity but unity in diversity, in the comparison and conciliation of differences. And, ideally, peace means the absence of violence."

Mikhail Gorbachev was born in 1931 in a village in southern Russia. He rose through the ranks of the Communist party to become the Executive President of the Soviet Union in 1989.

and transformation (perestroika) intended to modernize the USSR. His efforts led to his receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1990.

Gorbachev lost his office during the dissolution of the Soviet Union. He continues to work for international peace through the International Foundation for Socio-Economic and Political Studies and Green Cross International.

Gorbachev initiated a period of political openness (glasnost)