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Photo by Pixabay

In this Issue

Peace the World Round

We sat down with Dr. Ani Kalayjian to talk about the legacy of her work with the Association for Trauma Research and Prevention (see page 18)

Book Review

Associate Editor Kisane Prutton reviews a new book on ex-combatants' voices and transitioning from war to peace on page 25

Student Spotlight

Hear about the upcoming Division 48 Student Committee and its proponents on page 7.

Small Grant Awards

Congratulations to the latest recipients of the Division 48 Small Grant Awards! See the list of awardees on page 11.

APA-Wide Peace Work

Learn about exciting research across APA divisions to protect immigrants, led by Dr. Germán Cadenas on page 9.

Art & Poetry for Peace

Get inspired by music by Humood Alkhuder, and learn more about his work on page 22.

From the Editor: Reflecting on Peace Journalism's Crucial Role in the Landscape of Creating Harmony

Journalistic Advocacy's Footprint for Peace

I honor our team who labor tirelessly to turn out up-to-date peace news.

- Robin Lynn Treptow, Editor-in-Chief



While soberingly cognizant of countless zones of intractable violence world-wide, it's essential that as peace journalists we stay optimistic, engaged, and, energetic to flag the often unrecognized contributions—influential or little known—of individuals and groups who labor tirelessly for global harmony. We at *The Peace Psychologist* are grateful for a duty to keep peacemaking's aura of possibilities alive in the public (and private) mind. Whether voices for peace are secular or faith-based, scholarly or activist, adult or child, traumatized or healing--the crux is that each is a voice for peace.

I invite you to join our journalistic journey: share it liberally, and consider submitting or soliciting from your colleagues like articles for upcoming issues (see *Call-for-Papers*). Our team has blossomed to a near-dozen writers, copy editors, reviewers, and designers who meld diversity and experience with ingenuity and passion to expand peace's global footprint. We are indebted to writers, contributors, encouragers, pundits in Division 48's leadership and among its membership. See our accomplishments on page 36.

Aspiring to raise peace journalism's plateau of scholarship, Aashna Banerjee, Stephanie Miodus, Kisane

Prutton, Josh Uyheng, and myself—will join Ani Kalayjian (featured in this issue)—to present in APA's 2021 Virtual Conference. Others—Stephanie Beckman, Natalie Davis, Anupriya Kukreja, Audris Jimenez, Ousswa Ghannouchi, and Noah Shaw may join us for the next peace journalism panel when APA is face-to-face: who knows?

Our content spans the globe--we are eager to print novel reaches into how peace scholars, activists, artists, educators, and leaders of all types are generating peace in small and larger ways. We hope you'll find this issue's content to be worth your while.

Photo by Angela Buttafoco on Unsplash

Nahid Nasrat's Presidential Initiative



Artists have long shown resistance to oppressive regimes through their art. There are many examples of such efforts throughout the world. I know one organization, called ArtLords (not warlords!), which was founded in 2014. Its main objective is to create a platform for dialogue among ordinary people on the streets of Kabul. In addition, ArtLords is giving a visual voice to the voiceless, which is the very reason for the existence of the movement. Pedestrians who pass by are invited by artists to join and help them paint murals on barren city walls. ArtLords strives to endorse the message of peace in Afghanistan through the expression of the arts and culture. Its most important goal is to depict a visual representation of diverse communities' desire to move from war towards peace. Through murals around different cities, ArtLords brings art to the people and hopes to develop a relationship between people and art. Doing so will provide a much-needed psychological shift which will allow people to open their hearts to new prospects. The use of art opens space for "emotions without affiliation." It stimulates critical consciousness and helps people understand that war is a deeply destructive and commonly shared experience.

Dear colleagues, peace builders, and friends,

I hope this finds you and your families well wherever you are. As I reflect more about different strategies of national healing, it is important to note that healing looks differently for different communities. Bringing peace to our communities, eliminating divisions here and globally and creating peaceful spaces can be complex and yet simple at the same time, depending on the socio-geopolitical context. It has been long known that building peace means different things for different communities. In the West, the majority of peacebuilding models have been a top-down approach, while in many non-western, the approach is bottom-up. For example, a non-traditional peace building model which has been around for a long time is peace through arts. The effects of arts in promoting peace has long been known to be promising.



However, the only collective effort that can bring peace in Afghanistan, South Asia and Middle East, must come from within society by its people and not forced onto them from outside forces like the military. My hope is that the movement, peace through arts, will expand globally where efforts to build peace can become more inclusive and decolonized in its nature.



Editor Note: To illustrate her column, Dr. Nasrat has drawn liberally from artwork created and distributed by the ArtLords, founded by Omaid Sharifi and Kabir Mokamel, who have a vision to transform Afghanistan for peace using the creative power of large-scale murals, and other art forms. The images are printed under [Attribution 2.0 Generic](#) protocol. For more about the ArtLords' work for peace, read the [United States Institute of Peace](#) 25 February 2020 feature or the 15 July 2020 news story in [The Guardian](#).

Photo provided by Dr. Nahid Nasrat



Dr. Nahid Nasrat

Op-Ed Guest Opinion

How do we save the world?

By Kathleen Malley-Morrison

As a Fellow in Division 48, a member of Mass Peace Action, and a retired (but not retiring) peace psychologist, I'm very concerned about the two greatest threats to the survival of life on the planet—climate change and nuclear weapons. Right now, I'm most worried about nuclear weapons because they could finish us all off tomorrow—plus building and storing them also contributes to environmental destruction. So, my question is: How do we get people to recognize the nuclear threat and do something to reduce it? I have talked to friends in other parts of the country who say that they hear some mumblings about climate change but nobody has been talking about nuclear anything since the '70's and '80s. I'm retired and the government isn't going to give me a big grant to study the issues, but I hope to do a small informal qualitative study with Div 48 members to ascertain their views on two short videos designed to educate the public about the nuclear threat inherent in nine nations building ever more nukes.

Here are the links to the videos:

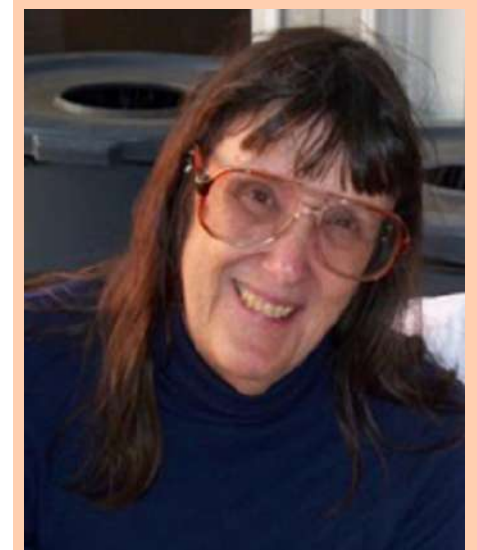
- *Nuke the City* (9 minutes, animated): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iPH-br_eJQ
- *The Last Empire and Nuclear War* (30 minutes, documentary): <https://www.cambridgedocumentaryfilms.org/filmsPages/empire.html>

Please help the cause by watching at least one and preferably both of these two videos and answering a few questions. (If you do watch and report on both videos, please indicate the order in which you viewed them):

- What was your emotional response to each video?
- What was your cognitive response to each video? Did watching them in any way affect your views concerning the extent to which continued development of nuclear weapons by the US government is a threat to all of us, and even to life on earth?
- Do you think both films are effective educational devices for alerting people to the current and increasing threat involved in the continuing development of nuclear weapons? Might they lead people to want to learn more and/or actively fight against the expansion and upgrading of our country's nuclear arsenal? What other thoughts do you have about the potential of videos such as these to increase resistance to the country's nuclear program? Have you seen other anti-nuclear weapons videos that you would recommend?

Please send your responses to kkmalley@comcast.net

Kathleen Malley-Morrison
Professor Emerita
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Boston University



Kathleen Malley-Morrison is a Professor Emerita from the Department of psychological & Brain sciences at Boston University, where she specialized in cross-cultural and international perspectives on violence. She has conducted extensive research on violence and abuse in families and other intimate relationships as well as on the views held by ordinary people around the world on topics of war and peace. Specific topics surveyed include the potential right of governments to conduct acts of aggression (e.g., invasion, torture) and the rights of individuals to live in a world of peace and protest against war. She is editor of the four-volume series on State Violence and the Right to Peace: An International Survey of the Views of Ordinary People, published by ABC-CLIO/Greenwood, as well as a two-volume series, International Perspectives on Peace and Reconciliation and International Perspectives on War, Torture, and Terrorism, published by Springer.

Photo by Maria Oswalt on Unsplash



Update on the APA Annual Convention (August 12-14, 2021)

By Grant J. Rich, PhD, Walden University, Alaska

The Annual APA Convention is upon us! This year the Convention, which will take place August 12th to 14th, will be fully virtual. Our Division 48 has utilized its full allotment of APA assigned hours, and our program will feature a number of exciting and timely symposia as well as a Presidential Address from D48's Nahid Nasrat, and one full poster presentation session.

Registration for the Convention is now open, and rates are very economical, reflecting reductions from the typical in-person prices. For instance, registration for members and international affiliates is \$120 USD (compared to the usual \$315 USD), rates for APA student affiliates, APAGS members is \$30 USD (compared to the usual \$100 USD), and rates for nonmembers is \$190 USD (compared to the usual \$495 USD). You may register for the APA Convention on its webpage link here:

<https://convention.apa.org/>

Presenters at the Convention uploaded their materials, presentations, and posters by Tuesday, July 20th. APA has developed a special "Presenter Hub" webpage with helpful, indeed essential information and instructions for presenters. This Presenter Hub webpage is found at: <https://convention.apa.org/presenters>. To be present for their panel's Office Hours, presenters must themselves register for the APA 2021 Virtual Convention.

Our D48 program includes a veritable plethora of high quality work in peace psychology, including three symposia on the January 6th Capitol Incursion, chaired or cochaired by Alice LoCiceo and/or Art Kendall, as well as symposia on "Peace and Justice for Animals," chaired by M. L. "Candi" Sicoli, "Peace Psychology Amid COVID-19" chaired by Robin Lynn Treptow, "The Psychological Well-Being of Peacebuilder During COVID-19," "Unpacking the Concept of Peace," chaired by Grant J. Rich with presentations by Naji Abi-Hashem and Sayyed Moshen Fatemi, and "Meaning Making Peace and Forgiveness" chaired by Ani Kalayjian and Nancy Nanc Amirkhanian. I look forward to "seeing" you all there!

*Register
to Attend!*

APA 2021

Just a quick reminder that you must register to take part in all the great things APA 2021 has to offer, including joining the live, interactive events, exploring the 1,000+ on-demand presentations, and holding your Office Hours. Join thousands of psychologists from all over the world for an unparalleled experience. Register Now @ <https://input.apa.org/166>

PLAN YOUR TRAVEL FOR UPCOMING APA CONVENTIONS NOW ...



SPOTLIGHT on the Journal of Peace and Conflict (PAC)

December 2015 PAC Special Issue Featured in APA Journals Article Spotlight®

Division 48's harm-reducing & peacemaking articles featured by APA!

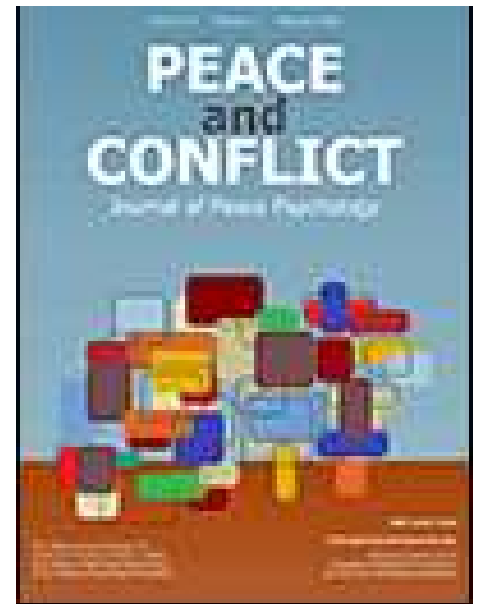
On its [website](#), APA Journals is featuring a 8 Dec 2015 PAC Special Issue on "collective harmdoing." According to the APA, in its six articles plus a discussion which unites its themes and names its omissions, this special issue "aims to explore, from the perspective of the perpetrator, the association between harmdoing and well-being, and the processes through which people engage and disengage from harmdoing" (APA, 2021). Opening theoretical pieces integrate perspectives from peace, clinical, and social psychology, while later articles are data-driven.

2015 Special issue of Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology

Citation: Louis, W. R., Amiot, C. E., & Thomas, E. F. (2015). Collective harmdoing: Developing the perspective of the perpetrator. *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 21(3), 306-312. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pac0000112>

Below we recap for our readers a one-line summary of each paper, with links for each in hopes you will be both inspired and informed by reading these seminal contributions to the literature by our esteemed colleagues.

- Former Division 48 President [Rachel MacNair \(2015\)](#), builds out yet more her theory of Perpetration-Induced Traumatic Stress Disorder, where moral injury-induced trauma, that is, distress resulting from the perpetration of harmful acts, creates patients' symptoms.
- Noting links between doing harm and lower wellbeing, [Neville and colleagues \(2015\)](#), adopt a preventive, public health angle and challenge society to develop primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions for youth violence.
- [Leidner et al.'s \(2015\)](#) concept of "healthy wars" (APA 2021) joined with [Kraft's \(2015\)](#) data on violence-consistent narratives and [Hijazi et al.'s \(2015\)](#) evidence for post-traumatic growth among combat veterans may reveal why and how societies entrench themselves in civil violence and warmaking, despite harms to some in their social group, or certainly the outsiders against whom they fight.
- [King and Sakamoto \(2015\)](#), take a reconciliation approach by examining intervention and healing data regards a well-known historically intractable conflict between the Rwandan Tutsi and Hutu communities.
- The special issue's contributions and gaps are recapped by [Ben Hagai and Crosby \(2015\)](#) in their analysis of its collective merits and contextual short-comings.



[Follow PAC on Twitter](#)

Upcoming Special Topics

[Putting science to work for peace: Global research in memory of Emile Bruneau](#)

[Perspectives on colonial violence 'from below': Decolonial resistance, healing, and justice](#)

Incoming PAC Editorial Board (2022)

Editor

[Laura K. Taylor](#) (University College Dublin / Queen's University Belfast, Ireland)

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Huseyin Cakal, PhD (Keele University, UK)
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 Borja Martinović, PhD (Utrecht University, Netherlands)
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Bibliographer and Book Review Editor (2022)

Herbert H. Blumberg, PhD (Goldsmiths College, U of London, UK)

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 Roxane de la Sablonnière, PhD (Université de Montréal, Canada)
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 Michael Wessells, PhD (Columbia University, USA)
 Peter Hegarty, PhD (Open University, UK)
 Winnifred Louis, PhD (University of Queensland, Australia)
 Gordon Sammut, PhD (University of Malta, Malta)
 Brady Wagoner, PhD (Aalborg University, Denmark)

Member News

Serdar M. Değirmencioğlu is no longer affiliated with FernUniversität in Hagen. He is now the Philipp Schwartz Fellow at Goethe University Frankfurt a.M., Germany.



As an activist public scholar, I have produced ground-breaking publications on burning issues and an award-winning documentary focused on injustices young people faced in education. I led grassroots initiatives focused on building democracy with young people. Since 2008, I have written a Sunday newspaper column focused on children, social justice and peace. I was awarded the 2020 Josephine “Scout” Wollman Fuller Award by PsySR for my work with children. In 2016, my academic career in Turkey was terminated for having signed a peace manifesto. In 2017, I was banned from public service for life. In exile, I continue to work on burning issues, including migration justice, policing, and militarism.



“The Bronx Social Justice and Anti-Violence Forums” host, Daren Jaime, interviews Dr. Ani Kalayjian, the founder of the Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention (ATOP) Meaningful World. Dr. Kalayjian discusses the complexities of racial trauma, ATOP Meaningful World’s healing work, and Dr. Kalayjian’s book, *Forget Me Not*. Click this link to watch the interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IR9tuMnRJJJ>.

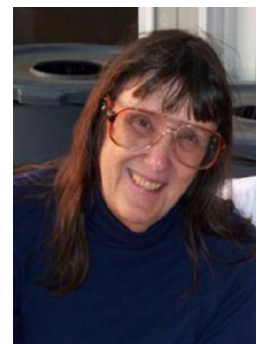
Dr. Ani Kalayjian, psychology faculty at Teachers College, Columbia University, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and at *MeaningfulWorld*, a multicultural and multilingual Psychotherapist, Genocide Prevention Scholar, International Humanitarian Outreach Administrator, Integrative Healer, author, and United Nations Representative.

SissyMarySue a.k.a **Dr. Wendy Muhlhauser**’s passion for empowering youth populations helped her launch SissyMarySue in 2014 to communicate a message of empathy and encourage positive action in our world today. This [podcast episode](#) was recorded prior to the conferral of Dr. Muhlhauser's doctorate degree in Education on February 11th, 2021. Topics covered include:

- The relationship between empathy and cognitive development*
- Social learning and play-based learning*
- Strategies for parents and teachers to teach children about empathy*



Wendy Muhlhauser, MA, Ed.D is an education consultant, playwright, lyricist, and award-winning author. Also known by her pen name SissyMarySue, Wendy is dedicated to teaching children age-appropriate lessons about empathy. Visit Wendy’s website to learn more about her books and educational curriculum: <https://www.sissymarysue.org/books>. Also see a SissyMarySue [documentary](#) on You-Tube.



According to its co-founder and Division 48 Fellow, **Kathleen Malley-Morrison**, the long-time peace blog, *Engaging Peace*, is taking flight. Read Dr. Malley-Morrison's words about her journey here:

In 2010, as a peace psychologist at Boston University, I began, in collaboration with Pat Daniel, a former student and close friend, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit called Engaging Peace, Inc. The mission of the nonprofit, and the blog and newsletter that it made possible, was to educate readers from a variety of backgrounds about alternatives to warfare, and to foster engagement and activism for the cause of world peace and social justice.

In the 11 years since we started Engaging Peace, Pat and I have published over 1,000 blog posts (which prompted almost 5,500 reader comments), more than 100 monthly online newsletters, and over 60 political cartoons. Sixty guest authors, including several members of Div. 48—e.g., Tony Marsella and Roy Eidelson—contributed excellent posts to the blog. Among the psychological constructs addressed in Engaging Peace were moral engagement and disengagement, which we used to explain why people engage in war and other atrocities, and what to do about it.

Read **Dr. Malley-Morrison**'s biography on page 3 with her Guest Opinion on nuclear weapons | war..

Engaging Peace is about to end as a nonprofit, but its archives are being adopted by Mass Peace Action (<http://masspeaceaction.org>) and will continue to be available for perusal. Please visit us there.

Over the last decade, considerable efforts have been made in Colombia to build peace and foster cultures of peace, especially through education. **Dr. Gabriel Velez** is working with others who contribute to this valuable body of work. Read more about education and peace in Colombia in our Fall/Winter edition!

Dr. Velez is an assistant professor and developmental psychologist in the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership (EDPL) in the College of Education at Marquette University. See his work at <https://marquette.academia.edu/GabrielVelez>, follow him on Twitter at @GabrielMvelez, or contact him at gabriel.velez@marquette.edu.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Division 48 Student Committee Forming

Following the Executive Committee approval of a proposal to create a student committee, Division 48 aims to expand and reinvigorate its student body. First, members of the student committee formation team aim to better understand the interests of existing student members. A survey was distributed in May to gather input. If you missed the survey, but would like to connect with the members of the formation team to share your ideas, please contact Stylianos Syropoulos (ssyropoulos@umass.edu), Jenna Walmer (jmwalmer97@gmail.com), or Stephanie Beckman (stephelizbeckman@uwalumni.com).

... we hope to meet with and discuss the unique needs of student members.



Second, we hope to meet with and discuss the unique needs of student members. In pursuit of this goal, we will be reviewing and updating the student and early career listserv. In addition, we aim to recruit more students to join our division. We will be contacting schools with peace-related programs, faculty who are members of Division 48, and organizations with a peace focus to assist with recruitment. We want our student committee to be inclusive and representative of a diversity of peace-interested individuals.

If you are already a student member of Division 48, we'd love to hear from you! We invite you to join us in the development process or to simply share your thoughts and interests. If you are a faculty member or otherwise in contact with students, please spread the word! Any inquiries about the benefits of being a student affiliate for the division can be directed to Stylianos, Jenna, or Stephanie at the email addresses in paragraph one.

... we'd love to hear from you!

Student Committee Development Team



Stylianos Syropoulos

Stelios Syropoulos, is a third year PhD student in the Psychology of Peace and Violence Program at University of Massachusetts Amherst under the supervision of Dr. Bernhard Leidner. He received his BA (honors) in Psychology from Franklin & Marshall College. His research interests focus on perceived safety, intergroup conflict, peace and violence and national identification.



Jenna Walmer

Jenna Walmer is finishing two masters programs at West Chester University: Holocaust and Genocide Studies and Psychology. She will be attending Syracuse University to pursue a PhD in Social Psychology under the advisement of Leonard Newman. Her research interests relate to psychological mechanisms that contribute to mass atrocities.



Stephanie Beckman

Stephanie Beckman is a PhD student in International Psychology (Organizations & Systems) at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Her research examines organizational impact on peace and healing through justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation in Colombia. She earned a BS in French, Education, and African Studies at University of Wisconsin and an MA in Education, English, and TESOL at Edgewood College.

Early Career Spotlight

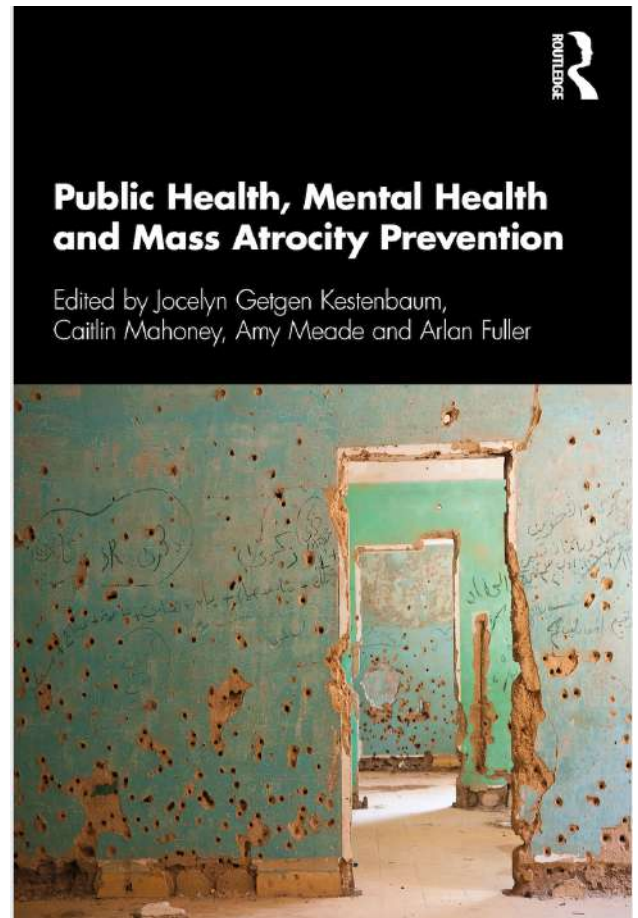
Multidisciplinary anthologies published

We, the editors, are excited to announce the publication of two multidisciplinary anthologies: The first, an edited book titled, *Public Health, Mental Health, and Mass Atrocity Prevention*, and second, a special journal issue by the same name, with the *Harvard Health and Human Rights Journal* (Volume 23, Issue 1, June 2021 - available [online](#) and open source).

Our collaboration began, in 2015, with the aim to build a body of knowledge on the ways in which public health and mental health policies and practices can lower recurrence and prevent the onset of mass atrocity crimes. In particular, we hoped to reorient and bridge cross-disciplinary conversations and to begin a discussion with a common language and purpose at the theoretical and practical levels. In June 2019, we convened eighteen academics and practitioners engaged in work at the intersections of these disciplines across various contexts, and at various intervention points along the continuum of harms that can be defined as atrocity crimes. Represented among these scholars and practitioners were psychologists, sociologists, social psychologists, epidemiologists, public health practitioners, political scientists, legal scholars, human rights practitioners, anthropologists, historians, peace studies scholars, and philosophers.

The immediate outcome of these conversations are the newly published volumes. The authors of these 19 collected papers dive deeply into the public health and mental health rights dilemmas that emerge from prevention efforts related to identity-based violence and mass atrocity crimes - including war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide - and they represent a diversity of context, epistemology, and methodologies. Together we examine the ways we can adapt rights and health frameworks, methods, research, tools, and practice toward a more sophisticated and truly interdisciplinary understanding and application of atrocity prevention. In their totality, the papers demonstrate the state of these current fields and the intersecting themes within human rights, public health, mental health, and mass atrocity prevention and, importantly, future potential directions for next collaborative steps.

Members of Division 48 served as editors, workshop attendees, chapter/article authors, and subject matter expert reviewers. Foundational research for the book chapter by Erin McFee and Cecilia Dedios Sanguinetti titled, *Masculinity and moral sonhood among former Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) members in Mexico and Colombia*, and the journal article by Gabriel Velez titled, *"Teaching truth in transitional justice: A collaborative approach to supporting Colombian educators,"* were both funded by divisional small grants to early career members.



Editors

Caitlin O. Mahoney is Associate Professor of Psychology at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, MN. As program evaluator for the Aushwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity (AIPG), she helps local and international organizations more effectively deliver on their missions to promote human rights and social justice. Caitlin served for eight years on the Executive Board of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence (APA Div. 48).

Jocelyn Getgen Kestenbaum is Associate Professor of Clinical Law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law where she directs the Benjamin B. Ferencz Human Rights and Atrocity Prevention Clinic and the Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights (CLIHHR).

Amy E. Meade is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and currently holds a joint faculty appointment as a Part-Time Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and as Assistant Psychologist at McLean Hospital.

Arlan F. Fuller is the Chief Operating Officer of Conflict Dynamics International. He worked for 12 years at Harvard University's FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, serving as its executive director for seven years.



Caitlin O. Mahoney



Jocelyn Getgen Kestenbaum



Amy E. Meade



Arlan F. Fuller i

Liberatory Research to Protect Immigrants: Germán Cadenas on the 2020 CODAPAR Project

Structural conditions have imposed long-standing, multi-layered environments of risk and harm for immigrants in the United States. Immigrants' complex experiences of marginalization require diverse perspectives and tools to understand and address. Yet immigrants are not powerless. Grassroots activists and community leaders have played crucial roles over the years in safeguarding immigrants' welfare and promoting immigrant interests from the ground up.

How then might the field of psychology serve immigrant communities? The 2020 Interdivisional Immigration Project commissioned by the Committee of Divisions / APA Relations (CODAPAR) of the American Psychological Association represents one major effort to answer this question.

Led by a team consisting of over half a dozen APA Divisions and the National Latinx Psychological Association, the project sought to facilitate critical dialogues with immigration activists and community leaders across the Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West regions of the United States. Conversations led to definitions of harm experienced by immigrants in each region, areas of need for support in each community, and concrete strategies for multi-stakeholder collaborations to address these needs.

What did it mean to conduct research at this scale in a manner that was liberatory, and what might it mean for similar projects more broadly? The Peace Psychologist (PP) spoke with Dr. Germán Cadenas of Lehigh University, the coordinator of the project's leadership team, to get a more intimate view of what it was like to steer this major effort at the intersection of research and advocacy.

The interview was conducted over email and has been slightly edited for clarity and conciseness.

Peace Psychologist (PP): *What were your thoughts, feelings, and motivations in coming to this project?*

Dr. Germán Cadenas (GC): As I was thinking about starting this project, I was reflecting on my own experiences as an immigrant and being formerly undocumented. I recognized that there is more that psychology could be doing to support the great work that is being done on the ground, in immigrant communities, to resist the harm that has been caused by anti-immigrant policies and enforcement. My main motivation was to create a space for the world of psychology and activists for immigrant rights could come together to engage in critical dialogue. I think that there is so much that these communities can do if they worked more closely together, and especially when we have the mutual goal of preventing more harm and traumatization on immigrants. Coming into this project, I was hoping to help develop these collaborative networks that we could then leverage in the future, for advocacy purposes. I also wanted to create a practical tool for others to be able to do similar work, and that practical tool is the report that we published.

PP: *What has it been like working with a team from different divisions of APA? What would you say are the biggest benefits, as well as challenges?*

GC: It was a very interesting and unique experience to work with so many APA divisions, the National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA), and so many psychology leaders at the same time. The benefit is that we were working with very like-minded people, who brought a wealth of experience to the project, and who were themselves very motivated to do something positive for immigrants. Some of the challenges have to do with managing such a large group. We had over 40 psychologists sign up to be part of the project. So, working in regional teams was a nice solution and a way to help smaller teams of psychologists connect with local activists.

PP: *What impacts do you hope this project will have - whether short- or long-term, measurable or not - for the communities you work with or perhaps for yourself and your team?*

GC: We hope that this project will be impactful in many ways. We already met our goal of encouraging more collaboration across divisions on issues of immigration, and also met our goal of doing this project in a way that centered the voices of the community and that used liberatory methods. We are now trying to share this work widely. We are presenting the report at the APA conferences, and we are writing an academic paper to share more of our thinking on developing collaborative advocacy strategies between psychologists and activists.



Germán Cadenas, PhD is an Assistant Professor of the Counseling Psychology Program at Lehigh University. His primary research interests are focused broadly on the psychology of undocumented immigrants, including their sociopolitical activism, educational outcomes, career development, and psychological wellbeing. He also investigates the utility of critical consciousness as a tool to promote educational equity and career development among communities facing social oppression. He currently serves as Vice President for Diversity and Public Interest in the Society of Counseling Psychology (American Psychological Association, Division 17) and is also active in the National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA).

GC: We hope that all of this will motivate more psychologists to become connected with local immigration organizations and support them in their advocacy. More broadly, we hope to continue working with APA divisions and others to continue advocating for more humane policies.

PP: *Where do you see this project in relation to the longer arc of your work in psychology? What do you hope to do or continue doing, alongside or after this project?*

GC: This project very much fits with my overarching work in psychology. My work focuses on the psychology of immigration, as well as on social justice advocacy and liberatory research and pedagogy. This work was informed by much of my own research and previous advocacy and service.

Moving forward, I think that I learned so much with this project, and all of these lessons will support new projects I take and create in the future. For instance, I am now much more comfortable with establishing multiple teams and leading a large multi-site project like this. I think there is much more that can be done to bring psychology to be of service to the public on social justice issues, and to that end, I certainly hope to continue building on the models and strategies we developed through this project.

PP: *Where do you see this project in relation to broader work of protecting immigrants here and abroad? What do you hope (or fear) will continue, alongside or after this project?*

GC: I hope that this project and the strategies we developed in it will be informative to this larger work of supporting immigrant rights. We made some very concrete recommendations for advocacy in each region in the U.S. and nationally. Now anyone in the psychology community or in the immigrant community can look at the report, and they'll have a blueprint for engaging in collaborative advocacy.

I think we will see the impact of this on policy. The changes that need to be made to transform immigration policy are major, and it will take a collective effort to move our immigration system to become more humane. We need everyone involved, and the report from the project gives us a place to start.

The full CODAPAR Report is [available on this link](#).

Joshua Uyheng is a doctoral student in societal computing at Carnegie Mellon University, where he studies online disinformation and political polarization through the lens of computational social science. Originally from the Philippines, he has previously worked as a policy analyst and advocate for universal healthcare. He is a student associate editor of the Peace Psychologist. Contact him with ideas for features at juyheng@cs.cmu.edu.

Peace Radar

REALs (Reach Alternatives)

By Natalie Davis

REALs (Reach Alternatives), formerly known as the Japan Center for Conflict Prevention (JCCP), was founded in 1999, with its headquarters located in Tokyo, Japan. Many interested in a career in peacebuilding can share a certain story or incident that created or influenced their desire to work in this field. The founder of REALs is no different, and shares a story about her inspiration for creating the organization: seeing pictures and news of the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 (REALs, 2021). This catapulted her desire to not only help those affected by conflict worldwide, but to help prevent the conflict from ever occurring, as noted in the REALs vision and mission statements.

REALs has an international reach, primarily working with areas affected by conflict in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Their goal is that of many peacebuilders: “to enhance potential of “people” to be bearers of peace, develop ‘systems’ for problem solving, and create a ‘society’ that can prevent conflict” (REALs, 2021). REALs focuses on several areas to achieve their mission and vision, which include preventing violent conflict from occurring, finding ways to encourage peaceful coexistence, supporting gender equality, offering psychosocial support services for those affected by conflict (especially that was violent or traumatic), and providing a variety of emergency services where needed (REALs, 2021). All of these include numerous activities and services, ranging from producing a conflict analysis of an area to training community leaders to assisting refugees. The organization operates in a way that helps from afar and also on the ground.

A myriad of ways to support the organization and its mission exist.

A myriad of ways to support the organization and its mission exist. One can volunteer their time and expertise in areas such as marketing or public relations, as well as remotely supporting the various offices around the world. Those located near an office can volunteer in person, as well. Additional ways to support this organization might be to donate resources or money, corporate sponsorship of an event, becoming a member of the organization, or spreading awareness of the global issues that are happening around the world (REALs, 2021). For anyone interested in learning more, you can visit their website [here](#).

The mission of REALs really sticks out and is a great example of the work that can be done to not only help resolve conflicts, but to prevent them from happening in the first place. The work REALs does to evaluate countries and areas at risk of violent conflict and find ways to possibly prevent it from occurring is truly amazing, on top of all the other services they have to help those already affected by conflict. I am continuously inspired by the organizations I read and research about for the *Peace Radar* section of *The Peace Psychologist*, and the dedication and passion of the peacebuilders who created and run them. It is my hope that you may also be inspired by these organizations, as well as this issue’s feature, *Reach Alternatives*.

REALs has an international reach ... working with areas affected by conflict in Asia, Africa, & the Middle East. Their goal is ... “to enhance potential of ‘people’ to be bearers of peace” (REALs, 2021).

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2021 Division Small Grant Awards

Small Grants Committee Chairperson, Breeda McGrath

Dear Division 48 Colleagues,

I hope you are all well. The Division 48 Small Grants Program Committee has reviewed the applications for 2021 and determined the awardees for this year. Breeda McGrath (bmcgrath@thechicagoschool.edu)

Mikaela Armenta, Student

Effects of Chronic Violence Exposure on Prosocial and Violent Behavior

Taib Biygautane, Student

The Political and Socio-Psychological Dimensions of Anti-Normalization among Moroccan Leftist, Islamist, and BDS Activists

Candice Cason, Early Career

No Justice, No Peace: Taking Action to End a Distant Conflict

Sandra Dennis, Student

A Phenomenological Study on the Peacekeeping Experiences of Soldiers from the Global South

Mariska Kappmeier, Mid-Career

Māori and Pākehā perspectives: Trustworthy police in New Zealand

Steven Krauss, Mid-Career

From Conflict to Peace: Exploring Youths' Participation in Political Armed Conflict and Peacebuilding in Yemen

Diksha Bali and Mazneen Havewala, Student

Peace and Healthy Relationships in the Family: Applied Workshops and Evaluations in Context of the Indian COVID-19 Crisis

Stephanie Miodus, Germán Cadenas, Mary Beth Quaranta Morrissey, and Elizabeth Cárdenas Bautista, Student, Early Career, & Late Career

Building Immigration Advocacy Consortia: Advancing Human Rights and Social Justice

Breeda McGrath is a licensed clinical psychologist and nationally certified school psychologist. She has served as Chair of the Divisions 48 Small Grants Committee since 2018. She currently serves as an Associate Campus Dean for Online programs at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, where she supervises over 30 graduate programs. Breeda is a school crisis prevention and intervention trainer and has worked in Illinois public schools. She collaborates with international colleagues in Indonesia, Senegal, India, and Ireland, and provides training and consultation for the Young Center of Immigrant Children's Rights.



If you want peace, make peace...

Building a Global Coalition for Peace: Meet the Co-Chairs of the *International Network for Peace Psychology (INPP)*

Written by Joshua Uyheng

For individual peace psychologists, commitment to local context is vital for critical and sensitive scholarship and practice. Yet global solidarities can offer empowering experiences for expanding one's horizons of thought and sense of belonging.

Especially in a time of global crises and conflicts, psychologies of peace have taken on renewed significance on the world stage. Contemporary issues increasingly cut across national borders, requiring international efforts to understand and act upon them. Similarly border-crossing contact zones between peace psychologists worldwide enable the necessary exchange of global ideas and insights, social resources for drawing community strength amidst adversity, and even material support for mobilizing social change.

The International Network for Peace Psychology (INPP) is one organization that aims to open up such spaces. Earlier this summer, the Peace Psychologist (PP) sat down with the current Co-Chairs of the INPP for an interview. Below, you will hear from Dr. Shelley McKeown Jones of the University of Bristol (SMJ) and Dr. Siew Fang Law of the University of Melbourne (SFL) as they talk about the organization, its aspirations, and the journeys that led them here. The interview was conducted over email and has been slightly edited for clarity and conciseness.

PP: *For readers who may not be familiar, could you kindly describe what the INPP is and does, perhaps a quick history of its formation and activities?*

SMJ and SFL: We are a small network of scholars, practitioners, and activists from around the world who are interested in promoting peace and social justice through our research and practice. Our network is led by us as Co-Chairs and we are supported by a Steering Committee and Senior Advisors. Our primary activity is the hosting of biennial international symposia where we create a space for researchers and practitioners to meet and share ideas and to collaborate in addressing local and global peace priorities. We have a rich history of advocacy and developing the field of peace psychology that we are incredibly proud of. You can find out more about the history of INPP (formerly known as CPSP) and who we are here.

PP: *How did you both come to lead the INPP through your co-chair positions? Did you see the organization as fulfilling a particular need, or addressing some aspects of your goals or ideals as peace psychologists?*

SMJ and SFL: We were both introduced to INPP through attending symposia and from there, we have each developed an interest in growing the field of peace psychology through leading INPP.

SMJ: I fell in love with INPP's ethos in 2009 when I supported the organisation of the Northern Ireland symposium, working with the late great Professor Ed Cairns who was my PhD supervisor. For me, there is something really special and incredibly refreshing about the INPP community. When a position to Co-Chair INPP came up I was excited by the opportunity to build on the strong history that has been created by our INPP leadership.

SFL: I was introduced to INPP by Prof. Diane Bretherton when I was a PhD student back in 2003. I attended the peace psychology symposium in Manila, and realised that unlike any other academic symposiums or conferences I have attended, the peace psychology symposia build life-long scholarly friendships. Given there is a small number of peace psychologists, pursuing the path of peace psychology could feel a little 'alone' sometimes. This small global network of friends has sustained a supportive space for many years.



Shelley McKeown Jones, PhD is an Associate Professor of Social Psychology in the School of Education at the University of Bristol. Influenced by her time growing up in Northern Ireland, Shelley's research focuses on understanding and improving intergroup relations for youth living in conflict and diverse societies. She is particularly interested in applying social psychological theory to practice and policy in education and beyond.



Siew Fang Law, PhD is an Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests intersect community development, peace and conflict transformation. She is affiliated with the University of South Africa and University of Western Sydney. Currently she is a Council member of Victoria University, Board member of non-profits Initiative for Change Australia, a Board Editor of Springer Peace Psychology Book Series. She has worked with UNDP and UNESCO in Southeast Asia, formerly she is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Social and Political Psychology.

If you want peace, make peace...

**"I fell in love with INPP's ethos in 2009
... working with the late great
Professor Ed Cairns who was my PhD
supervisor."**

~ Siew Fang Law, PhD

PP: *How do you see your experiences - perhaps personal or professional - shaping your approaches to leading the INPP?*

SMJ and SFL: We have been co-chairing INPP together for two years now; we have learned a lot from each other and each have different perspectives that adds richness to our leadership. Our vision for INPP is influenced by our own experiences as peace psychologists and global citizens.

SMJ: I grew up in Northern Ireland and am driven to think about how we can create peaceful societies, particularly for young people. I have been increasingly working with organisations and practitioners to co-create solutions to promote peace. As INPP Co-Chair, I am passionate about ensuring that our symposia are contextually embedded, bringing together research and practice to help create and sustain creative approaches to achieving social justice and building peace.

SFL: Indeed, I am pleased to see INPP become more diverse and inclusive with the broadening of committee roles and general membership. I grew up with Chinese heritage in a society that is hugely multilingual, multi-faith and multicultural Malaysia. When I completed my higher

education in Canada, UK and Australia, and discovered a lack of diversity in the mother discipline of psychology and the western higher education sector, and felt passionate about bringing diverse perspectives and paradigms to peace psychology.

PP: *For those who may wish to join the INPP, what would you say is most enriching about being part of the organization?*

SMJ and SFL: Without a doubt, the supportive conversations at our meetings and symposia that translate into meaningful research, practice and advocacy. We truly believe that our network bridges divides through the prioritising of inclusivity and global perspectives. Everyone has a voice.

PP: Finally, perhaps as a broader question, how do you both view the role of peace psychology as a discipline and practice in the world today? How do you see INPP contributing to that vision?

SMJ and SFL: Peace psychology is as relevant today as it ever has been - we continue to face huge crises across the globe that require peace psychology theory and practice. Some of the concerns that we are becoming more involved in as a network are climate change and social equality issues - advocating to secure a better future for the next generations.

*To learn more about the INPP, visit their website at:
<https://peace-psychology.weebly.com/>*

Joshua Uyheng is a doctoral student in societal computing at Carnegie Mellon University, where he studies online disinformation and political polarization through the lens of computational social science. Originally from the Philippines, he has previously worked as a policy analyst and advocate for universal healthcare. He is a student associate editor of the Peace Psychologist. Contact him with ideas for features at juyheng@cs.cmu.edu.

"I attended the peace psychology symposium in Manila, and realised that unlike any other academic symposiums or conferences I have attended, the peace psychology symposia build life-long scholarly friendships."

~ Shelley McKeown Jones, PhD

Upcoming Section of "The Peace Psychologist"

Spirituality and Peace

Coordinated by Associate Editor, Anupriya Kukreja

Spiritual and religious practices have always emphasized the role of compassion, love, and dialogue for maintaining harmonious and peaceful relationships in society. While each may have their own gods and doctrines, they also have their own prescribed methods for peacebuilding and conflict resolution. This section of The Peace Psychologist will hence take up one indigenous or spiritual practice each edition, and look at core Peacebuilding doctrines and ideas from it while translating how they can be applicable to real-life conflict resolution in the present day. The writer/ curator may choose one practice/ school of thought and write their own analysis, or recruit an expert from that faith tradition who can expand on that practice's peacebuilding doctrines.

Call for papers

We will be accepting 750-1500 word long pieces on the same. Email us at rtreptow@email.fielding.edu to send in your pitch! Put Spirituality and Peace (Anupriya Kukreja) in the subject heading.

SIP Solidarity

North American & Alaska Native Society for
Indian Psychologists Feature

Summer with its lure of gardens, dirt, and out-of-town guests has captured the energies and attention of our primary SIP contributor, the esteemed Dr. Joseph Trimble. He's got an article or two in mind for the future, and has recruited one or more from a colleague who'll roust a few collaborators to get Native messages of peace into print for our readership. He also has "to find the time (and also get into a writing mood)."

Meanwhile, the SIP (*North American and Alaska Native Society for Indian Psychologists*) [website](#) is bursting with countless resources for Native psychologists, or those whose worldview is in solidarity with tribal perspectives.

A recent rich and informative telephone visit with SIP's Native Mentorship Chair, Dr. Denise Newman, revealed immediate opportunities for Native scholars. One is the *SIP Native-to-Native Mentorship* initiative, now in its fifth year. This link is for the 2021-22 program:

https://uofmississippi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_08nJreGW1TmtpfE Applications are due 15 September with matches ready in October. Stephanie Miller is the new Chair.

Criteria for *SIP's Native-to-Native Mentorship* are to:

- (1) be a SIP member;
- (2) self-identify as a Native;
- (3) complete a brief application to help with mentee-to-mentor matching; and
- (4) meet four times per year as mentor-mentee.

Extras are to attend (a) mentee-mentor events at the SIP Conference in June and/or (b) Webinars on becoming a Native psychologist. SIP has up to 25 Native mentor-mentee pairs a year, and are eager to serve Native psychologists in this way.



NCRE SCHOLARS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Cohort 10 | 2021-2023

APPLICATIONS DUE Monday, August 16, 2021 at 5:00 pm MDT

Applications are now being accepted for NCRE Scholars Cohort 10, which will start September, 2021.

NCRE Scholars is situated within the Native Children's Research Exchange (NCRE) network. NCRE brings together researchers studying child development from birth through emerging adulthood in Native communities. NCRE Scholars provides career development support and mentoring to early career investigators and late-stage graduate students interested in research on substance use and disorder and Native child and adolescent development.

Eligible applicants include **junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and late-stage doctoral students** in psychology, sociology, public health, social work, anthropology, education, or related disciplines. **Applicants must intend to pursue a research career focused on substance use and disorder and Native child and adolescent development.** Application materials should reflect this intent and focus. The application process is described below and on our website (www.ncrescholars.org, click on the "apply" tab at the top or bottom of the page).

APPLICATION PROCESS

The following must be submitted by 5:00 pm MDT **Monday, August 16, 2021** to caitlin.howley@cuanschutz.edu.

- **Completed application form** (attached and available on website)
- **Curriculum vitae**
- **Personal statement** (limit 500 words) highlighting previous research experience and career goals; describing how career goals align with NCRE's mission to support **research on substance use and disorder and Native child and adolescent development**.
- **Concept proposal for a paper or grant application** (1-2 pages) describing a manuscript for publication or a grant application to be developed and submitted with NCRE Scholars program support. The proposal should be clear in its link to **research on substance use and disorder and Native child and adolescent development**.
- **Two letters of reference submitted directly to caitlin.howley@cuanschutz.edu** by professors, supervisors, or colleagues who can speak directly to applicant's research potential.

Applicants will be notified of selection decisions mid-September 2021.

NCRE Scholars is funded by grant R25DA050645 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse

Please contact Nancy Rumbaugh Whitesell (nancy.whitesell@cuanschutz.edu) or Michelle Sarche (michelle.sarche@cuanschutz.edu) for more information.



If you turn right at the Chepe Monge corner store in Ciudad Colón, Costa Rica, up a windy 7 km road lined with coffee fields and magnificent mountain views, you will bump into a most surprising sight ...

Global Peacemaking

Introduction to the University for Peace (UPEACE)

By: Julia Delafield

If you turn right at the Chepe Monge corner store in Ciudad Colón, Costa Rica, up a windy 7km road lined with coffee fields and magnificent mountain views, you will bump into a most surprising sight. There, right past the tiny 900-person hamlet of El Rodeo, you'll see the University for Peace, a cluster of open hallways and buildings surrounded by a startling array of statues and busts commemorating peace and peacebuilders from around the globe.

The University for Peace (UPEACE) was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1980. Its goal is to 'provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace and with the aim of promoting, among all human beings, the spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress.' The United Nations values shine through at UPEACE, and Costa Rica, which abolished its army in 1948, plays a perfect host.



An international institution by design, UPEACE brings together scholars of virtually all ages and nationalities to pursue degrees related to peace. With Masters and doctoral offerings, the university approaches peace studies by looking at the root causes of conflict, with the clear philosophy that only by addressing disparities and improving international governance can we hope for a more peaceful world. MA programs fall into the three departments - Peace and Conflict Studies, Environment and Development, and International Law – and include such important topics as Media and Peace, International Law and Human Rights, and Indigenous Science and Peace Studies.



Though the idyllic 740-acre campus donated by the Costa Rican government is expansive and includes the last remaining primary forest in the San Jose province, the university itself, by many measures, is quite small. The typical student body consists of about 150 MA students that come to spend a year immersed in their studies, living in a nearby town in apartments and host families, and participating in block-style classes that run for nearly 4 hours a day. The diverse student body encourages cultural exchange and deep contemplation of difficult subjects. After all, imagine the power of a conversation on human trafficking with participants with varied nationalities, backgrounds, and exposure to the topic?

"... everyone can spread peace through their realm of influence, be it professionally or personally."

The UPEACE experience is unique, experiential, and completely transformative.

Within the University for Peace there are also wonderful opportunities for lifelong learners. Those who aren't looking to move to Costa Rica and pursue a degree can work toward a more peaceful world through professional development aimed at deepening positive impact. The Centre for Executive Education was created to offer transformational educational experiences that give participants the skills, knowledge and inspiration to do just that. With diplomas in Global Leadership and Social Innovation and a host of shorter workshops and conferences, the Centre believes that everyone can spread peace through their realm of influence, be it professionally or personally. Programs are offered online, onsite or in a hybrid format, and are made for busy professionals, echoing the university mission by bringing together changemakers and peacebuilders from around the globe.

The annual Gross Global Happiness Summit at UPEACE also gathers an inspiring group to dive into the topic of wellbeing - from keynote psychologists and academics to those interested in happiness in the workplace or schools. It's a wonderful way to experience the magic of the campus while learning and connecting, and the conference even counts toward the Global Leadership Diploma!

What binds together UPEACE students -- in both the degree-based and professional development programs -- is simple. It is hope, plus action. If you think the world can be better, and you are willing to do your part in the change, you might want to check it out.

The UPEACE experience is unique, experiential, and completely transformative.

Want to learn more? We invite you to visit www.centre.upeace.org or www.upeace.org to check out all that UPEACE has to offer!

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<https://www.upeace.org/>

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<https://centre.upeace.org/diplomas/>

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Julia Delafield is the Director of the Centre for Executive Education at the University for Peace, established by the General Assembly of the United Nations (UPEACE). She has dual master's degrees from [UPEACE](http://www.upeace.org) and American University in Washington DC in International Relations and Affairs and Natural Resources and Sustainable Development. Before joining the Centre, Julia worked with a social enterprise dedicated to bringing volunteers and Spanish learners to Latin America. She also is a co-founder of Lafaza, a sustainable vanilla importing venture with her brothers, and spent the first half of her career with Rainforest Alliance and Fair Trade USA working on development and environmental certification programs through Latin America. Julia is from the United States but has lived in Costa Rica since 2009, as well as spending significant time in Mexico and Brazil.

Global Peacemaking

Introduction to Dr. Nancy Peddle & LemonAid Fund

by Stephanie Elizabeth Beckman, MA

In 1999, Dr. Nancy Peddle was living and working in Sierra Leone as part of a humanitarian partnership of UNICEF, Christian Children’s Fund (now ChildFund), and the government of Sierra Leone. Just two days before rebels closed in on her community, her team was evacuated by the United Nations; meanwhile, her neighbors’ places were “shot up” (N. Peddle, personal communication, June 21, 2021). She realized that she was lucky to be able to leave, but most locals were left behind and endured “utter despair” (N. Peddle, personal communication, June 21, 2021). Upon her return, Dr. Peddle made a deal with herself that she would do something for those left behind. She founded LemonAid Fund, a 501c(3) charitable organization, with the purpose of stopping the cycle of violence and trauma.

LemonAid Fund’s mission focuses on supporting locally proposed sustainable projects “to aid individuals in their efforts to achieve positive and lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities” (LemonAid Fund, n.d.). This includes providing crisis support like bottled water, food, and clothing; technical support like communications infrastructure; grant writing to secure funding; microloans for programs that promote women-led businesses and well-being; and other forms of support such as trainer education.



Photo provided by Nancy Peddle, PhD

the FGA Approach supports transforming a trauma survivor’s perspective on a grievance story, which may include feelings of “fear, hopelessness, hatred, anger, sadness, blame, guilt [sic], stress” into an empowering story of self-forgiveness or forgiveness of others, resulting in feelings of “hope, optimism, positive thoughts, passion, joy, happiness, [and] love” (LemonAid Fund, n.d.). In short, it promotes peace by helping people find “peace in their own hearts” (N. Peddle, personal communication, June 21, 2021).

Since LemonAid Fund aims to support peaceful and sustainable communities, the organization trains local facilitators for its FGA workshops. Since its development, LemonAid Fund has supported the use of the FGA Approach in communities around the world, including in Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Gambia, Colombia, Nicaragua, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, and India. The list of partner organizations and communities served by the FGA Approach continues to grow thanks to Global Vision One Million FGA, which aims to serve 1 million people in finding peace and well-being after trauma.

More information about LemonAid Fund and the FGA Approach can be found here: <http://www.lemonaidfund.org>

Reference

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Photo provided by Nancy Peddle, PhD

Since 2016, LemonAid Fund is also the home to the Forgiveness, Gratitude and Appreciation (FGA) Approach, a psychosocial program developed to promote resiliency, happiness, and well-being for people who have experienced trauma (LemonAid Fund, n.d.). LemonAid Fund’s FGA Approach leads participants through 6-10 research-based activities that have been demonstrated to increase healing and resiliency in people who have experienced trauma or extreme stress (LemonAid Fund, n.d.). The activities include engaging in cultural sharing so that people from different ethnic or religious groups attempt to understand each other’s frame of reference; writing a grievance story; finding self-compassion and appreciation; using Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT), a body tapping process to reduce stress and anxiety; practicing yoga; and expressing gratitude and appreciation. Based on psychological research that has demonstrated the healing and restorative potential of forgiveness,

Nancy Peddle, PhD is an Affiliate Faculty at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology with the International Psychology PhD program and the Founder and Executive Director of INGO LemonAid Fund. LemonAid Fund’s mission is to work with individuals who have experienced injustices who want to improve their lives and those of their families and communities.



Peace The World 'Round

Written by Ousswa Ghannouchi

Interview with Dr. Ani Kalayjian



Editor Note: The following is an abridged version of an extensive interview. The full name of Dr. Kalayjian's humanitarian organization is Association for Trauma Research and Prevention.

PP: Can you tell us a little about your background and ATOP Meaningful World? What kind of work have you done or are currently doing in the areas of peace psychology, peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and sustainable development?

Dr. Kalayjian: I began the organization in 1988, but it was registered formally in 1990. The goal is to nurture a generation of youth to be able to bring in peaceful resolutions and create a life that is meaningful so people can generate positive meaning from the traumas, tribulations, wars, genocides that we experience around the world.

My passion for this work came from my childhood because I inherited generational trauma from the Ottoman Turkish genocide from my father and as early as 8 years of age I remember saying to my parents "What's wrong, is there something you're not telling me?" In order to protect us they didn't tell us about the genocide and they wanted us to learn about it later when we become adults. At age 15 we moved from Syria, where I was born. My dad who was a survivor of the Ottoman Turkish genocide, traveled through the Arabian desert and made it to Syria which borders Turkey and Turkey to the Armenian lands. Two million were massacred and killed and the rest were thrown out to the desert to find refuge. I was fortunate that my dad survived the challenges of navigating the desert and that we were born in Aleppo, Syria. Since childhood I could feel the sadness and the helplessness that the Armenian community felt as a minority Christian group within a majority Muslim country, and I made it my life passion at an early age to make a difference and to ensure that people learn from these experiences and generate positive meaning from their suffering, and focus on healing first and then generating meaning so that they can pass on the wisdom to the next generation as opposed to passing on the trauma. There is research that supports the idea that trauma that is not transformed and healed can be passed through DNA up to about fourteen generations.

This is the reason behind my passion for this kind of work. We (ATOP Meaningful World) have volunteers in over forty eight countries around the world and twenty six states in the US where people have experienced human made disasters like the genocide in Rwanda, generational

Dr. Ani Kalayjian is psychology faculty at Teachers College, Columbia University, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and Meaningfulworld, a multicultural and multilingual psychotherapist, genocide prevention scholar, international humanitarian outreach administrator, integrative healer, author, and United Nations representative. She was named Outstanding Psychologist of the Year Award from American Psychological Association (2016, Trauma Division), a Humanitarian Award from the University of Missouri-Columbia (2014), the 2010 ANA Honorary Human Rights Award, the Honorary Doctor of Science degree from Long Island University (2001) recognizing 30 years as a pioneering clinical researcher, professor, humanitarian outreach administrator, community organizer & psycho-spiritual facilitator around the globe and at United Nations.

In 2007 she was awarded Columbia University, Teacher College's Distinguished Alumni of the Year; the citation stated: "You have devoted your life to studying the impact of trauma and to helping others to heal. That calling grows out of your family's history and your own: As an Armenian child in Syria, where your family had sought refuge from the Ottoman Turkish Genocide of Armenians, you lived with the constant sadness & fear. In a sense, your life since then has been- to borrow a phrase from your own writings- about channeling the sense of helplessness that one feels in such moments into the work of helping others. You have treated, studied, and helped transform survivors of both natural and human-made disasters from around the world. As your protégé wrote 'What is extraordinary about my teacher and mentor is her unrelenting commitment to bettering society by unifying minds, hearts and spirits, emphasizing likeness in human beings and celebration of differences. She is steadfast in her optimism that prevention of human-made trauma and resilience post natural disasters can be realized and nurtured through forgiveness, tolerance, ancestral healing and respect for all humanity and mother earth.' She has over 100 published articles in international journals, books, and is an author of Disaster & Mass Trauma, as well as Chief Editor of Forgiveness & Reconciliation: Psychological Pathways to Conflict Transformation and Peace Building (Springer, 2010), Chief Editor of II Volumes on Mass Trauma & Emotional Healing around the World: Rituals and Practices for Resilience and Meaning-Making (Praeger, ABC-CLIO 2010), author of Amazon Bestseller Forget Me Not: 7 steps for Healing our Body, Mind, Spirit, and Mother Earth (2018), author of a meditation CD called "From War To Peace" transforming generational trauma into healing and meaning-making, Soul-Surfing, and 40 films on Meaningfulworld Humanitarian Outreach Programs around the world.

transmission of Ottoman Turkish genocide, political violence in Palestine, Burundi, and Congo, and also natural disasters like hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Tsunamis in Sri Lanka, earthquakes in Northridge California, Florida, Katrina, all around the world. That is our main focus because I feel that when people are carrying trauma, they are not at peace internally and peace starts in our soul and in our heart in each person and vibrates and echoes through the external. When we are traumatized we are more in conflict internally and interpersonally and the most sustainable way to create peace, I believe, is through forgiveness and healing the trauma, meaning making, and discovering lessons learned.

I owe it to Viktor Frankl who is my teacher, who guided me towards the forgiveness when I was trying to ask him what I can do, that the Armenian grandparents are feeling this rage of denial because Turkey has a denialist agenda and they say that Armenians massacred them in their history books and Armenians are rally basically in anger and they are not working on healing themselves, they are upset trying to get acknowledgement which according to Harry Solomon, it is very important for closure. But when there are political situations where governments deny their responsibilities in these massacres and genocides, then we have to find alternate ways to validate ourselves, to be in support groups, etc. We have weekly support groups for people who are suffering either from COVID, or racial discrimination, or have generational trauma, we provide those free services since March 7th 2020.

*Peace The Word 'Round**Dr. Ani Kalayjian interview*

PP: *What drew you to peace psychology? How is this reflected in your global initiatives at ATOP Meaningful World?*

Dr. K: Through my volunteers at ATOP Meaningful World missions, we have witnessed firsthand how the revengeful and unforgiving spirit and continued traumatization impacts several countries and just like it happened in Rwanda. We see that this kind of disempowerment from one tribe can build up frustration, disappointment, helplessness, and anger, and then when that tribe gains any kind of positional or power, even in military for example, then they're going to act on their revengeful and vengeful feelings and conflict is never going to subside or be resolved. That is why it is very important to heal first from the trauma, then be able to practice forgiveness, and then from there generate new lessons which would be stepping stones for us to change our perspectives and the way that we live because even now the world is living in a very antiquated system where force, power, and weapons are used as opposed to using the wonderful mediation and conflict resolution techniques we have, in addition to forgiveness practices. Thirty years ago, when we started talking about forgiveness in these contexts, we were shunned. I was shunned and I was given derogatory names because forgiveness then was associated with mainly religious connotations and there was no science to support such methodologies. My forgiveness book that I edited in 2010 was the first one in the Peace Psychology series used to hopefully resolve conflict and create peace. It took us ten years to be able to publish this book because we received a lot of resistance from the scientific community claiming these concepts were not scientific and they don't belong in psychology. Now when you search, you will find thousands of articles on the importance of forgiveness and meaning making, specifically in resolving traumas and conflicts and bring peace. We did have to go through a lot to make that happen because there was incredible resistance.

PP: *What are your thoughts on vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue on the part of healers, therapists, and mediators in settings of intractable conflicts on the global scene?*

Dr. K: We implement techniques to help process the vicarious trauma experienced by our volunteers on any given day during any of our mission trips. We make sure we get together for meditation and exercises such as yoga, with a deep focus on breath work and positive affirmations for each energy center, color consciousness, and organ consciences. For example, say we're working on the heart center, we're talking about how it's green, the color is green so we visualize a green ball of light flickering around the heart center and carrying all the darkness, tensions, and other uncomfortable feelings and we release the negative emotions. We clean our hearts from the inside out by releasing feelings that haven't served us well, including criticism, or judgment, before they escalate to anger. Then we engage love to those who hurt us nurturing forgiveness and empathy and unconditional love in our heart. We call this combination of techniques "soul surfing," then we have time for ourselves to reflect. We do a lot of work on a daily basis to ensure we give time to process and heal any kind of trauma we are carrying with us after the mission work.

PP: *On what regions of the world do you focus most throughout your work with ATOP Meaningful World? You are trained and highly experienced in a number of healing services. Which of these services do you find yourself offering the most or is there the most demand for abroad?*

Dr. K: We work in seven regions including Asia like Sri Lanka, Japan with the earthquake and Tsunami. We work in the Middle East like in Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq. We work in North and South America. We work in the Caribbean like in Jamaica, Haiti. We work in Europe like in Romania, the Caucasus including Georgia and Armenia. We work in Russia. We work in seven regions in Africa including Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We also have an invitation to go into Uganda. In October we have a nature ecological consciousness trip to continue integrating trauma healing but incorporating ecological concepts. Of our seven steps, the sixth step addresses mother earth, so that is an integral part of our work. Every mission we go on, we plant trees and help them establish peace and forgiveness gardens, places where they can all worship, pray, or meditate together, or they can go there to receive time, where mindfully we can focus on healing modalities because each herb in the garden serves a purpose like lavender, sage, rosemary which are all healing herbs in the garden. Just breathing in these herbs is helpful.

Unfortunately, the world is experiencing significant negative backlash starting from authoritarian leadership as opposed to democratic leadership. There is a lot of backlash. Countries and regions such as Turkey, Azerbaijan, Middle East, Africa need the most help in terms of mindful leaders because their governments engage in a lot of destructive authoritarian leadership that is not inclusive or transparent. There are a lot of undemocratic methods of leading which are affecting the world in general. The whole world needs help in this area because we need a shift – we need to nurture more emotional intelligence. That's what we work on. We try to reach every country's educational system and try to offer them emotional intelligence lessons and training. I think we need help everywhere but specifically in countries with destructive and oppressive regimes/leadership.

PP: *What are your thoughts on global peacebuilding and trauma healing? Do you find that there are universal values and methods related to peace psychology across the diverse groups of people you work with?*

Dr. K: Yes, this is a great question. We found that there are universal reactions to trauma that may be human-made or natural. The first is shock and disbelief, then there is temporary denial, then acceptance and release where emotional strong feelings are released and people accept that they are in a challenging situation, and finally rehabilitation which can take anywhere from a couple of years to an entire lifetime depending on how serious the situation is. I think that the principle of emotional intelligence for peacebuilding is a very foundational principle because conflicts arise from anger and reactions, but when we respond authentically, respect one another, and express our feelings, emotional intelligence requires that you are savvy and you can identify and describe your feelings appropriately – not only your feelings but also manage someone else's feelings by distancing yourself and not fueling the fire.

Spirituality & Peace

Photo by cottonbro

COVID-19 and Global Disparities: The Role of Civil Society and the United Nations

by *Samer Sabbour, ATOP MeaningfulWorld*

Mentor: *Dr. Kalayjian, ATOP Meaningfulworld, Drkalayjian@meaningfulworld.com*

Global Impact of COVID-19

The Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been profound. With over 123 million confirmed cases and 2.7 million deaths worldwide as of 22 March 2021, the impact of the pandemic has been far reaching. Major world economies and industries have shrunk, leading to widespread unemployment. The US was declared to have entered its first recession since 2008 in June of 2020 (Leonhardt, 2020), prior to which unemployment had hit a record high of 14.7% in April 2020 (Kochnar, 2020). Likewise, in Europe, the European Commission expects an 8.7% contraction in the eurozone economy (Agence France Presse, 2020).

Mandated lockdown and stay-at-home orders and the rise of both remote work and learning schemes have exacerbated the global mental health crisis brought about by the isolation associated with lockdowns. According to a new World Health Organization (WHO) (2020) survey, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted or halted critical mental health services in 93% of countries. According to Panchal et al. (2021), about “4 in 10 adults in the U.S. reported symptoms of anxiety or depression” during the pandemic. Additionally, “13.3% of adults reported new or increased substance use as a way to manage stress due to the coronavirus; and 10.7% of adults reported thoughts of suicide in the past 30 days.” A similar trend exists worldwide, with the suicide rate in Japan jumping to 16% during the nation’s second COVID-19 wave, according to Reuters (2020).

Such struggles compound the physical toll. In the US there are currently over 30.4 million cases and 552,000 deaths. The federal government has not implemented any measures dedicated to curbing the virus and at various points during the pandemic, ICUs in many states such as California, Texas,

and New York have found themselves at full capacity. In December of 2020, ICU capacity for new admissions plummeted to 0% in Southern California (Money et al., 2020). At least 50 hospitals in Texas reported their ICU’s to be at full capacity as of January 2021 (Martinez & Astudillo, 2021). In New York, the erection of mass graves and storage of corpses in the back of freezer trucks was necessary to deal with the influx of corpses. Ultimately, the fact that psychological distress rates are currently higher than they were following “other large-scale traumas like September 11, Hurricane Katrina and the Hong Kong unrest,” attests to the gravity of the situation (Wallis, 2020). This investigation will identify trends in global disparities as they pertain to COVID19 based on gender, ethnicity, income, and vaccine distribution.

Further Disparities in the USA

Data has shown that communities of color have been hit the hardest by COVID-19 in the U.S. Nationally, African American deaths from COVID-19 are nearly two times greater than their share of the population. By May 2020, 56% of COVID-19 deaths in the US came from Black counties that make up only 30% of the U.S. population (Godoy & Wood, 2020).

Native Americans are also being impacted at disproportionately high rates. Nationwide, one in every 475 Native Americans has died from COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, compared with one in every 825 white Americans and one in every 645 Black Americans (Lakhani, 2021a, 4 February).

Ndugga et al. (2021, 18 February) report that Non-Hispanic Black adults (48%) and Hispanic or Latino adults (46%) were more likely to report symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder than Non-Hispanic White adults (41%) and that women have been more likely to report poor mental health compared to men (2021). Additionally, the unemployment rate for women in May of 2020 (14.3%) was higher than the unemployment rate for men (11.9%) (Kochnar, 2020). Given that communities of color faced barriers to health coverage prior to the pandemic, the urgency of the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated a need for support.



Photo by Mathias P.R. Reding

Spirituality & Peace

What is the United Nations doing to address disparities?

In line with this, in its concept note prior the United Nations' Human Rights Council's (UNHRC) Third Intersessional Meeting: 'Building back better: Integrating human rights in sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic,' the UNHRC (2021) reported that segments of society, including women, youth, poor persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, minorities, children, migrants, and refugees have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

For women, COVID-19 has been particularly challenging because they tend to earn less and have fewer savings. Additionally, as a result of their involvement in the informal economy, they have less access to social protection, are more likely to be burdened with unpaid care and domestic work, drop out of the labor force, and make up the majority of single-parent households (UNHRC, 2021).

The focus of the meeting was on strategies to aid global recovery from COVID-19 with emphasis on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 10 and 16, *Reduced Inequalities and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions*, respectively. Furthermore, there was emphasis on exploring national strategies for greater resilience in recovery, as well as how the UN Human Rights mechanisms can best contribute towards this, in line with the principle of "leaving no one behind" and stressing the importance of human-rights-based recovery measures that are inclusive, recognize the gendered dimension of the pandemic, and address inequalities.

The following items took place during the meeting:

1. Discussion of how various forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on gender, race, and ethnicity, have exacerbated inequalities in the context of COVID-19 and contributed to impeding the realization of SDGs 10 and 16.
2. Sharing examples and best practices of inclusive, non-discriminatory recovery strategies based on human rights.
3. Highlighting the contribution of human rights mechanisms, civil society, and human rights defenders in protecting against discrimination and addressing inequalities in a post COVID-19 environment.

Disparities are now also extended towards distribution of the vaccines on both national and international levels--in the US and abroad. 3.5% of Latinos and 4.5% of Black Americans have so far received a vaccine shot compared with 9.1% of white Americans and 8.6% of Asian Americans (Lakhani, 2021b, 17 February).

On an international level, richer and more developed countries representing 14% of the world's population have bought up more vaccine doses than poor and less developed countries (British Broadcasting Corporation [BBC], "Covid vaccine: WHO," 2021). The World Health Organization describes this as an impending moral failure towards poorer countries. It is believed that low-income countries will

only be able to vaccinate 1 in 10 people (BBC, "Covax: How will...," 2021). A New York Times article published on March 20th, 2021 finds that "residents of wealthy and middle-income countries have received about 90 percent of the nearly 400 million vaccines delivered so far" (Gebrekidan & Apuzzo, 2021, March 20th), highlighting a major discrepancy for the rest of the world.

Fortunately, as the British Broadcasting Corporation reported, the WHO has started an initiative called COVAX that looks to deliver two billion doses to people in 190 countries in less than a year to ensure 92 poorer countries will receive access to vaccines at the same time as 98 wealthier countries (BBC, "Covax: How will...," 2021). Over 180 countries have joined the initiative. In addition, some nations have pledged to donate their excess vaccines, including France, the UK (which also pledged \$134 million to the program) and the US (which also pledged \$4 billion to the program). Ultimately, 92 countries will have their vaccines paid for via a fund sponsored by donors as part of the COVAX program.

Though the program has received pledges and funding, WHO Director, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has recently called for a vaccine patent waiver that would allow for "countries to make and sell cheap copies of vaccines that were invented elsewhere" (Boseley, 2021, March 5). Many vaccine producing countries such as the US and the UK have pushed back against such a waiver, reflecting a potential new struggle that is only likely to continue as the pandemic goes on, with implications for future global health crises.



What is ATOP MeaningfulWorld Doing?

In light of the various findings, disruptions to mental health services require effective and adaptive interventions that are accessible. As such, we at the Association for Trauma Research and Prevention (ATOP) MeaningfulWorld have been offering a range of opportunities and programming to support people during this time. First and foremost, we have been hosting weekly virtual support groups over Zoom since March 2020 that are accessible and open to our local, national, and international communities. We have had participants from Egypt, England, Jordan, Syria, Pakistan, Armenia, India, the United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, and the U.S., with participants having joined us from Florida, California, Texas, Missouri, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. To date, we have welcomed more than 700 participants. ATOP has been able to not only target members of our organization, but also members of other NGOs, United Nations Missions, staff, ambassadors, and the community at large. We have seen remarkable international representation from all around the world.

Given the nature of COVID-19 restrictions, which have prevented face-to-face meetings and interactions, stay at home and lockdown have necessitated the use of online mediums for connection. Our virtual support groups allow individuals to connect with

Art & Poetry for Peace:

‘Hello Brother’ أهلاً أخي

by Humood Alkudher

by Stephanie Elizabeth Beckman, MA

Humood Alkudher is a Kuwaiti singer and music producer, known for integrating Arabic music and pop music focused on positivity and peace. He got his musical start during childhood by singing backup for his uncle at local events and continued to sing for fun throughout his college education. Thanks to growing regional success, he decided to pursue a full-time career in music. He is represented by Awakening Records, and his songs have topped the charts in the Middle East and in other global regions. His most famous track is “Kun Anta” (Be Yourself), with approaching 200 million views to date.

Humood’s featured piece for “Art & Poetry for Peace” is the song “Ahlan Akhi” (Hello Brother), which discusses the value of coming together in brotherhood despite differences for the purpose of peace.

The music video is available on YouTube :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4uLRtEF4B8>.

رُغم اختلافِ وجوهنا
سنظل نُشبهُ بعضنا
إن ما تزينت الوجوه بالابتسام
رغم اختلاف لغاتنا
سنظل نفهم بعضنا
إن أتقنت أرواحنا لغة السلام

متشابهانِ أنا وأنت وإن بدا
ما بيننا فرقٌ بلونٍ أو بدين
ستظل تجمَعنا الأخوةُ كلَّ حين
أهلاً أخي أهلاً أخي
بالخير قد مدَّت يدي
مسك يدي

أنا مؤمنٌ بعقيدةٍ
تدعو لكل فضيلةٍ
تدعو لأحسن للأنام على الدوام
عبادتي بتبسمي
تَرَّ أني أنتمي
لهويةٍ عنوانها: أفشوا السلام

Despite our different features
We will resemble each other nevertheless
If our faces are adorned with a smile
Despite our different languages
We will still understand each other
If our souls master the language of peace

You and I look alike even if it appears that there is...
A difference in our races or religions
Our brotherhood will always unite us nonetheless
Hello brother, hello brother
My hand is extended towards you in good-will
Take my hand

I believe in a faith
That calls to every virtue
That calls me to always be kind to the whole of creation
My smile is an act of worship for me
And I am proud that I follow...
A religion that commands: “Spread peace!”

Ahlan Akhi (Hello Brother) Lyrics

كلمات أهلاً أخي



Image provided by Humood Alkudher

Featured University

Universidad del Rosario

Bogota, Columbia



Universidad del
Rosario

<https://www.urosario.edu.co>

by Audris Jimenez

Universidad del Rosario located in Bogota, Colombia, allows students the opportunity to explore the study area of Peace Psychology. Among their international programming, the university offers a Peace Psychology certificate. The goal of this certificate is for students to consider how theory can be applied to conflict and peace within communities. Additionally, students will examine how to manage conflict without turning to violence. In order to complete the certificate, students are required to earn 24 credits. Some of the courses offered include:

- Bioecological Models and Fostering Resilient Human Development
- Mediation in Educational and Community Contexts
- Public Policies, Participation and Coexistence
- Moral and Social Development

The certificate is offered in Spanish through the school of Medicine and Health Science, and prospective students can expect to start in January or July. If interested, more information can be found [here](#).



Columbian flag photo by Flavia Carpio on Unsplash

Universidad del Rosario FaceBook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/URosario/photos/pcb.3013561602004388/301355505338331>

[Photo below from Universidad del Rosario FaceBook site.](#)



Peace Award

2020 International Peace Research Association (IPRA) Interview with Grant Awardee Paidamoyo Chikate



Photo by Joshua van der Schyff at Unsplash.com

"I have always been interested in peace studies and research on peace and one day decided to write about what was happening in Zimbabwe."

by Audris Jimenez

The International Peace Research Association (IPRA) has been working toward peace resolution since 1965. In 1990, they were able to create the IPRA Foundation. This foundation's mission is "to advance the field of peace research through rigorous investigation into the causes of conflict and examination of alternatives to violence. Peace researchers inform peace activities that inspire visions of a peaceful world". In line with this mission, they have developed several grant programs which can be found [here](#). One of these is the Peace Research Grant program, developed in 2002, where they provide up to \$5,000 in support of peace research projects all over the world, including Sierra Leone, Albania, Pakistan, and Ethiopia. *The Peace Psychologist* had the opportunity to interview one of the 2020 grant winners, Paidamoyo Chikate. In the interview which follows, Paidamoyo allows us an inside look at her current research in Zimbabwe and where she hopes to expand in the future.

"In terms of promoting peace and how I aim to do so, I mainly see my research as a gateway to information."

Peace Psychologist (PP): *Can you let our readers know a bit about your background?*

Paidamoyo Chikate (PC): I was born and raised in Zimbabwe and came to the US for college. After college, I went to graduate school focusing on policy and international relations. My interest has always been in international development work and as a result, I sought out opportunities at international organizations so that I could get a look from the inside. I am currently pursuing a PhD with the hopes of going back into international development in an evaluation and data analytics capacity in the future.

PP: *What is your current area of interest and how do you hope to utilize your work for promoting peace?*

PC: My current area of interest is evaluating and exploring African political systems, specifically looking at the repression of the right to protest in many African countries regardless of constitutional rights to protest. In terms of promoting peace and how I aim to do so, I mainly see my research as a gateway to information. Many researchers who do this type of research do not have a big enough platform to make real and tangible change. I hope to make my research accessible to Zimbabweans and Africans alike so that they know that their efforts for peace on the continent are not in vain.

PP: *How did you become involved with The International Peace Research Association Foundation?*

PC: I became involved with The International Peace Research Association Foundation by pure chance. I have always been interested in peace studies and research on peace and one day decided to write about what was happening in Zimbabwe. In the process of doing this, my Mama suggested I look up organizations that do this work and I found The International Peace Research Association Foundation just in time to apply for their research grant.

PP: *You have been involved with many other international organizations over the years and have done much needed work with them. Can you speak a little on what those experiences were like?*

PC: Working with international organizations gave me the opportunity to see the world through other people's eyes. I come from a land locked and small Southern African country so traveling to Syria to work with female refugees facing challenges attaining mental health services, for example, exposed me to the many ills that come from war and unrest. Having the opportunity to look at the world from the 30,000 feet level, showed me where I can fit into the world and what I can do for my country, continent and world given the resources I have. I quickly learned that doing good has no geographic boundaries - one can do good wherever one is.

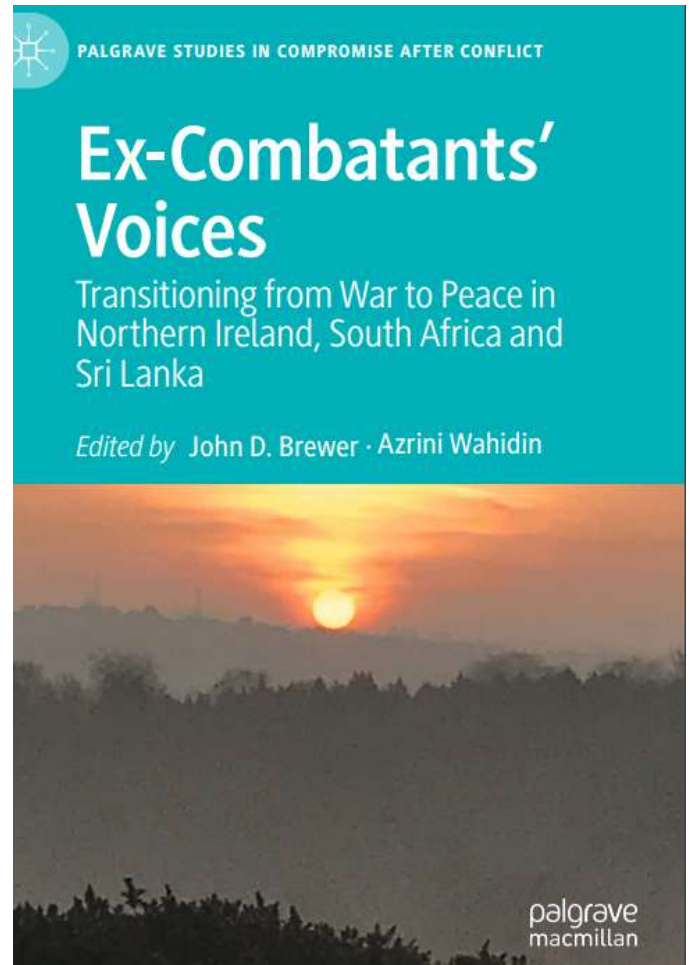
Book Review & Interview with the Editors

Ex-Combatants' Voices: Transitioning from War to Peace in Northern Ireland, South Africa and Sri Lanka. Edited by John D. Brewer and Azrini Wahidin

By *Kisane Prutton*

Gritty, compelling, awakening, passionate, mobilizing; just a handful of descriptors that attempt to do justice to the intellectual and emotional experience of reading this superb compendium of research and scholarly reflection. I found the book to be a no-holds-barred insight into the experiences of ex-combatants transitioning from conflict to peace. As readers, we are introduced to men, women and children from paramilitary and state military, all of whom have suffered not only the horrors of war, but also secondary victimisation on their reintegration into civilian society. The case studies illustrate how, on the ex-combatants' homecoming, their communities struggle to receive them and struggle to engage with the complex moral reasoning that is required to fully appreciate the ex-combatants' fused victim-perpetrator identity. Instead, under a martyr-demon-hero paradigm, ex-combatants are seen as either good or bad, deserving or undeserving. Through the book we learn the raw realities of the ex-combatants' lifeworld and the level of punishment and silencing that this most contested group of victims have endured. Their socioeconomic exclusion and unequal access to support services stigmatise the ex-combatant and compound their war-related psychological trauma. Punished, rejected, silenced, and deprived of privileges, this unique class of victims, in fact, can play a pivotal role in their countries' transition to peace. Ex-combatants have emerged from jail and the battlefield as warriors of peace; they have been critical to persuading other militarists to put down their arms and have served as moral beacons, wounded healers in their nations' collective transition to peace. The book thus successfully argues that the deep seated and binary moral judgments about the wrongdoing of ex-combatants not only revictimizes the ex-combatant but can also hold back peace processes.

Having had the privilege to interview the editors, John D. Brewer (Professor of Post-Conflict Studies at Queen's University Belfast) and Azrini Wahidin (Professor of Sociology and Criminology, University of Warwick), I discovered that there are many layers and levels to this book that make it all the more appealing. The book's thirteen chapters and 138 pages bridge the literary divide between the Global South and the Global North in three collections: South



Africa, Sri Lanka and Northern Ireland. Each of these three nations share similar social and historical experiences that stem from the legacy of colonial exploitation and protracted conflicts fuelled by religious and racial social cleavages. I was fascinated to hear about the challenge that Brewer and Wahidin had set themselves as editors. Their quest was to find researchers who were not only passionate about peace but who had also lived through a conflict in one of these three nations. In addition, Brewer and Wahidin were committed to finding authors who were early-career academics from minority, oppressed communities. Their editorial strategy has produced a powerful compendium comprising works by young academics whose own biographies are deeply embedded in their accounts.

For example, Dave Magee's chapter on loyalist ex-combatants from Northern Ireland shatters the stereotype of the militarised, male, loyalist paramilitary. Magee, himself from a loyalist, working class community in Northern Ireland, punctures the hyper masculinity trope, disclosing the emotional dynamics of loyalist men in their attempts to redefine their post-conflict masculinity.



Protestant Unionist Loyalist Community in Northern Ireland, site of the 2011 'Remember. Respect. Resolution' sculpture by artist Lesley Cherry. Photo by Kisane Prutton.

For academic readers, the book serves as a rich and valuable source of qualitative research, a top text for a university peace programme. Brewer and Wahidin have skilfully crafted the volume to ensure that in each chapter, the reader is grounded in the arguments being made. Each chapter offers an opening editorial commentary and finishes with a conclusion; the key points are dutifully hooked back into the core arguments concerning the moral complexities of the ex-combatants' experiences and contested status.

Further scholarly symmetry to the compendium is shaped through the topping and tailing chapter structures. Brewer provides an introductory chapter to the key theoretical concepts whilst Wahidin closes the compendium with a pithy summary of each chapter, further concluding reflections and a subtle call to action, as Wahidin explained to me during our interview:

"The book calls out the responsibility of all of us to challenge all forms of social inequality, to not only bear witness and bear testimony, but to take some type of responsibility to create a more peaceful, more reconciled society that is not caught in the binaries of deserving or non-deserving."

In reading this text, it is clear to me that we, the scholars, practitioners and policy makers in the field of peace, need to commit to enquire about and work with the motivations, moral claims, lived experiences and needs of the ex-combatant. We cannot rely on politicians to engage with these moral ambiguities. As Brewer argued in our interview:

"Peace processes are too important to be left to politicians, because politicians have no sense of the future, or at least the future for them only constitutes the next election. And the kind of discourse that politicians have, the confrontational discourse, argue-bargie, point scoring, means that politicians are not good at discussing complex moral issues. And so, it is up to everyone, you and me, the women's groups, the children's groups, the churches, the universities, the trade unions, it is up to everyone to start having a moral debate about what the future might look like and how we might learn to live together in tolerance in that future."

So, we all have work to do. By reading and bearing witness to the ex-combatants' voice, we can start the journey in meeting their need to be heard and no longer 'sinned by silence'.

Brewer, J. D., & Wahidin, A., (Eds.). (2021). *Ex-Combatants' Voices: Transitioning from War to Peace in Northern Ireland, South Africa and Sri Lanka*. Palgrave Studies in Compromise After Conflict. Palgrave Macmillan.



Photo by Christopher Sardegna on Unsplash

'... moral judgments surrounding the role of the 'deserving/non-deserving' combatants influence the process of reintegration'

(Wahidin, 2021, p. 316, in Brewer and Wahidin 2021)

Film Review

"BLIND TRUST" *Director, Molly Castelloe, PhD*

Leaders & Followers in Times of Crisis"

by Stephanie Miodus

The film *Blind Trust: Leaders & Followers in Times of Crisis*, directed by Molly Castelloe, highlights the work and ideas of Dr. Vamik Volkan, a psychiatrist known for his focus on dialogues between groups in conflict. The film provides strong insight on the importance and impact of these dialogues and leads viewers to think about how these can be applied in a variety of settings. It also highlights how Volkan's psychological concepts provide a framework through which community change and reduction in international conflict can be supported. The main premise behind these ideas is that there is much anxiety around societal change, but that the application of psychology is needed to address this.

Volkan's concepts and ideas portrayed in *Blind Trust* are applicable to peace psychologists and provide an opportunity for further reflection on supporting conflict resolution and peacemaking. The setup of the film allows for viewers to consider specific concepts of Volkan's with reflections from him and others familiar with his work. These reflections are followed in the film by applications of the concepts for societal change to serve as an example of how each can be employed. For example, Volkan's concept of 'chosen trauma,' presented in the film, suggests that certain traumas become markers of the larger group, which then becomes the heart of group identity and conflict. Through this lens, it is important to then identify such a chosen trauma before attempting to address and intervene in the group conflict. While this is just one example of a key aspect of better understanding group conflict through the lens of Volkan, the film provides clear explanations and examples of an 'emotional vocabulary' through which to view international relations when working towards peace. This approach of the film allows viewers to think more about how the ideas presented can be applied through their own lives and work towards a more peaceful world.



Email from film director, Molly Castelloe, PhD

I'm a mental health professional and independent film producer who has recently completed an award-winning and acclaimed documentary film on Dr. Vamik Volkan, a psychiatrist from the divided island of Cyprus and has worked in peacemaking around the globe for 40 years.

Dr. Volkan gave the keynote address in Cape Town, South Africa, in celebrating Archbishop Desmond Tutu's life of peaceful justice and the 10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He was a keynote speaker at the 2011 APA annual conference. Dr. Volkan has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize five times for his work in mental health, peoples' diplomacy and peacemaking.

The film screened as part of the Global Health Film Festival the end of last year and will broadcast on PES for "International Peace Day" in September. It is an educational tool for those working in mental health, international affairs and conflict resolution.

With many existing local, national, and international group and societal conflicts, there is a current need for a broader audience to learn about and consider Volkan's work in an effort for peace. Volkan suggests that large group identity issues are under these real-world social issues and this needs to be understood to create peace among groups. All peacemakers, particularly those with backgrounds in psychology, can learn from and benefit from Volkan's ideas that are clearly portrayed in this film in a compelling manner. The film allows viewers to critically think more about how Volkan's concepts can be applied in their own work for peace and throughout society. This film is suitable for anyone from an initial point of entry to inspire future peacemaking work to long-time peace psychologists and peacemakers. All viewers can use the ideas in this film to support others in knowing their own identities but also to realize that these identities can be fluid as a means to reduce conflict. Through Volkan's views presented in *Blind Trust*, peacemakers can find encouragement to support communities in finding their own way towards change and a more peaceful future.

Blind Trust will premiere on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) on International Peace Day (September 21). Please contact the director, Molly Castelloe, PhD, at msc214@nyu.edu for information or for a community screening,



Dr. Vamik Volkan

More information available at the film website: www.blindtrust.tv

Peace Museum

Tehran Peace Museum

A website worth perusing--visit if you can!

By Robin Lynn Treptow

The website of the [Tehran Peace Museum](#) is a treasure. Originally a member of the [International Network of Museums for Peace](#), the Tehran Peace Museum's main objective has been to "promote a culture of peace through raising awareness about the devastating consequences of war" especially as related to the atrocities of chemical weapons.



The [Tehran Peace Museum brochure](#) is stunningly beautiful--inspiring hope and courage regards an end to the horrors of war. Some exceptional pieces I enjoyed during my online scouting of the Tehran Peace Museum are its A General History of the Peace Museum Movement. I didn't realize there was a "movement," and this knowledge inspires me to now wonder how we at *The Peace Psychologist* can do even more to get the word out about peace museums and ways that their compelling sensory--visual, tactile, auditory, olfactory, and perhaps even gustatory and proprioceptive--appeals to our steady creating of peaceable societies.

Read about and experience what The Tehran Peace Museum offers online. I could not find confirmation that they are still on-the-ground although their amazing and creative work for peace was [ongoing in 2019](#). You could head there in person if you are visiting Tehran (or live in or nearby). The museum's posted hours are Saturday to Thursday from 9 am to 5:30 pm. The museum is closed on Friday. Admission is free.



Enjoy the Tehran Peace Museum's unique peacemaking foci

"Currently housed in a building donated by the municipality of Tehran within the historic City Park, the Tehran Peace Museum is as much an interactive peace center as a museum."

Peace Education Programming:

Museum workshops address topics such as humanitarian law, disarmament, tolerance, and peace education. Furthermore, it hosts a variety of peace-related conferences, e.g., the culture of peace, reconciliation, international humanitarian law, disarmament, and peace advocacy.

Documentary Studio:

The museum's documentary studio provides a workspace for the telling on film and archiving of individual victim's stories of warfare for the historical record.

Museum Peace Library:

The museum's peace library contains literature spanning international law to the implementation of peace to oral histories persons' war-related experiences.

Peace Art Exhibitions:

Permanent and rotating peace-related art exhibitions displaying the work of amateur international and Iranian artists and children's drawings are also housed in the museum complex.

Host to the Iranian secretariat for Mayors for Peace:

Houses the Iranian secretariat for the international organization [Mayors for Peace](#).

Justice for Animals Working Group

Good News for Animals Column

By M. L. "Candi" Corbin Sicoli, PhD

Reducing the Number of Animals in Labs

A landmark publication for animal welfare/rights came in 1959, when Russell and Burch created their three principles for ethical animal experimentation--refine, reduce and replace. Since then, there have been multiple attempts to formulate alternative methods to using animals in labs.

Recently Tuskegee, Tufts, and Western Universities have joined a growing number of colleges that have ended using dogs for "terminal surgery labs" in which the animals are used in experiments, and then killed. The Taiwan Food and Drug Administration now requires that in certain cases real persons should be the focus of experimentation, not animals, as had previously been the case, and which involved cruel drowning and electroshock tests.

Koe (2021) tells of the change by Taiwan's Food and Drug Administration where human subjects instead of animals must be used when making health claims--particularly anti-fatigue claims. Some scientists feel this will make these products more expensive and they will come to the market later. However, a spokesperson for Grape Kin Bio (2021) said the new rules will bring about progress toward the 3Rs- replace, reduce, refine. Despite this progress, other labs such as Washington National Primate Research Center continue to be accused of subjecting monkeys to cruel practices and neglect.

The Sanger Institute in Cambridgeshire (Hou, 2019), one of the world's leading suppliers of animals to labs for experimentation, has decided to stop breeding animals citing the development of new techniques. They are seeking to partner with a new organization which can provide far fewer animals for research. This move to stop breeding animals for lab use is opposed by some geneticists. They feel a mutated gene must be observed inside a living animal. Scientists also point to the use of animals in the discovery of penicillin and other cancer fighting drugs. A counterpoint to this trend is the argument that many drugs which looked effective in the lab have not panned out when given to humans--such as thalidomide.

Ingber (2018) of Harvard University discussed the role which developmental biology played in 'organs on chips.' This newer technology has yielded insight into both human physiology and certain disease mechanisms. He also discusses advantages and disadvantages of the 'organ on a chip' technique vs. using animals. Benam et al, (2019) present an exploration of new tools which will improve the search for therapies, while reducing reliance on animal testing, and which will also address Russel and Burch's (1959) principles of refine, reduce, and replace.

Ferdowsian et al. (2020) have written an elegant appeal for scientists to develop a Belmont Report for animals. This report establishes the principles which should guide humane research: respect for autonomy, obligations towards



Picture of "Ralphie" by Candi Sicoli
"Ralphie" was a most noble dog. He led rescuers to other abandoned dogs during the horrors of hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. He was one of my inspirations for beginning to do pastels of animals.

beneficence and justice, with special protections for the vulnerable. One issue they raise is that--while for many animal species in the lab researchers focus on the similarities those animals share with humans--they neglect their shared similarity for mental and physical suffering. Ferdowsian et al (2020) claim that fears (of disease) and ideological bias guide much research, but these factors do not make for sound ethical judgment. Do no harm, and maximize benefits while minimizing possible harms, are two principles which need to be better operationalized when doing research with animals. These authors recommend a "patient" model whereby when an ill animal is brought to a vet the animal's guardians can choose to have them enrolled in research while the animal lives at home with its caretaker. This research tactic would also take steps to maximize benefit and limit risk to the animal.

Lastly, a ray of hope can be found in the work of von Gall and Gjerris (2017) which introduces a concept of animal joy into animal welfare literature. They argue that joy is a part of welfare and conclude that elements of joy should not be overlooked from any perspective that purports to have an ethical perspective. Their work is focused on an examination of German animal protection law, but could be broadened to include ethics of animal experimentation. This addition could result in much better lives for animals used in experiments in labs.

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Peace Advocacy

Child Labor Around the World and the Peacebuilders' Role

by Natalie Davis

As peacebuilders, there is a wide range of social and political issues we may concern ourselves with and hope to end, impact, or affect. We long to see the end to conflict, especially violent conflict, and instead envision a world where every human being is able to exercise their inalienable and equal rights. One of the topics I hope never escapes from our view is child labor. Especially for the most innocent amongst us, there should be a positive future in store.

Despite the many efforts made by nations across the world to put an end to child labor, it is commonly practiced. A 2021 report by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and International Labor Organization (ILO) show us that over 160 million children are in child labor; this statistic amounts to "almost 1 in 10 of all children worldwide," and shows us that "global progress to end child labour has stalled for the first time in 20 years" (UNICEF/ILO, 2021). It quite puts into perspective just how important it is for this issue to return to the forefront of our minds and work.

Naturally, the impacts of a worldwide pandemic have played a role in this, but child labor existed well before COVID-19 hit. There are many reasons that children are forced into labor, a main one being the genuine need for income, especially considering that over 9% of the world is estimated to live in extreme poverty (World Vision, n.d.). On top of this, access to affordable and quality education is not available for many families around the globe, along with a lack of laws and enforcement of existing laws (The University of Iowa Labor Center, n.d.). Many factors contribute to the prevalence of child labor today, though many of these areas can be positively improved over time.

For most of us, just hearing the term "child labor" makes us uncomfortable, but for the 160 million children and their family members, it is part of their reality. As the report UNICEF and ILO published this past June explains, "Child labour compromises children's education, restricting their rights and limiting their future opportunities, and leads to vicious inter-generational cycles of poverty and child labour" (2021). The impacts are great, and extend much beyond just children doing work they should not yet have to be burdened with. It affects their overall wellbeing in every facet - their mental, physical, emotional health (UNICEF/ILO, 2021). Child labor will very likely restrict children from a bright future, especially with the way that it hinders their ability to receive an education. It continues the kinds of cycles that peacebuilders hope to resolve.

As peacebuilders, we seek to prevent and reduce conflict, instead creating sustainable peace. It goes without saying that child labor is a concern for all of us who have the ability to do something about it, and certainly for those of us who hope to create a more peaceful world. How can there be peace for these millions of families affected by their children being put in such harm's way, and who are likely suffering from poverty or other less-than-ideal situations? What does this say about the underlying issues that the country itself may be experiencing? Conflict around the world is often caused by economic issues, varying beliefs (whether religion or politics), and issues regarding resources (Shah Mbe, 2009). All of these areas can contribute to the increase in child labor that is occurring today, and all of such which hinder peace in multiple ways.



Photo by Ben Richardson on Unsplash

Discovering in what way we can play a role in ending child labor is important. Every person has their own abilities and resources they might contribute. For some, it is as simple as raising awareness. For others, perhaps donating money to an organization that works to reduce child labor, such as [The Child Labor Coalition](#). For peacebuilders, it could be a variety of things given that there is no set field for peacebuilders. If we consider the possible causes of conflict and child labor, we can readily assess that addressing severe poverty, improving the local economy of an affected area, and working toward policy change that restricts the use of child labor as well as providing appropriate resources to reenforce these laws can largely reduce child labor in most nations. On top of this, there are several (though not exclusive) ways to help, for instance: developing programs that might work within a community that experiences child labor to help parents bring in additional income; offering psychological support to affected children and their families; or creating an alternative education program. There is also a great list of ways to help as listed by Marsha Rakestraw with the Institute for Humane Education [here](#). Whatever way you choose to help, it all matters and can help us move back into a place of actively working to put an end to child labor.

Child labor is not an uncommon term and none of us are totally ignorant to the fact that it happens. However, the increase in child labor this past year shows us we have some work to do. Peacebuilders play a critical role in the future of our world and there are so very many ways and efforts made to help resolve conflict and move toward a more resilient, sustainable, and peaceful world; hopefully, the work that is being done now will one day allow us to see a future where child labor is a part of the past.

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Peace Advocacy

Photo by Andrew Stutesman on Unsplash



Grassroots Movements for Peace

The International Network for Peace Psychology (INPP) called on the international community to support the *Inter-American Psychological Society's* "Statement on the socio-political situation in Colombia" issued on 10 May 2021. Below is the text, translated to English, along with a request to sign to show your support. More than 500 signatures of support have been gathered.

To:
 The President of Colombia, Iván Duque Márquez [Twitter: @infopresidencia, @IvanDuque],
 The Vice President of Colombia, Marta Lucía Ramírez [Twitter: @ViceColombia, @mluciamirez],
 The Minister of Justice and Law, Wilson Ruiz Orejuela [Twitter: @Minjusticiaco, @WilsonRuizO],
 and The Minister of the Interior, Daniel Palacios [Twitter: @MinInterio, @DanielPalam]

The Inter-American Psychological Society (SIP) looks with concern at the socio-political situation in Colombia and calls on the parties involved in the conflict to develop strategies that promote the immediate search for peaceful and negotiated solutions, with agreements that satisfy the needs of the population and favor the preservation of institutions.

Faced with the events that occurred in recent days, where expressions of violence have been observed from various social and institutional spheres, we call for common sense, respect for human rights and the search for negotiated agreements, with multi-party participation, that enables the articulation of various points of view, and the definition of action plans that advance strategies to meet the pressing needs of the country.

We consider that the life, safety and integrity of human beings should be venerated and protected. Events such as those that are happening create catastrophic psychological, social and moral conditions in the general population. These events can have traumatic effects on people and damage the possibility of achieving a more just and equitable society for all citizens. Furthermore, this type of situation perpetuates the psychological damage created by social inequality, which translates into increased trauma, depression and distress, while aggravating bodily conditions such as tension, blood pressure and health problems, as found in previous research.

We emphatically reject situations such as those that have occurred, advocate for the expeditious and humanitarian resolution of this situation, and offer all its collaboration and resources to contribute to the reduction of inequity, stigmatization, hatred and ideological polarization, associated with the events that happen in the nation.

 To add your signature, visit the link here: <https://tinyurl.com/INPPAddYourSignatureColombia>
 #####

Activists for BDS (Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions)

Psychologists in Solidarity with Palestine

The Palestinian initiative is called "Activists for BDS"
 This is a group for anyone interested in engaging in the sharing of information, collective deep thought and dialogue, and action around Palestinian human rights issues. There is an academic focus, sometimes a decolonial grounds bias, but those of us, now and in the future, are focused on a real movement to help bring about liberation for Palestine from that which binds and blinds us. And that we hope, despite all sources of personal, social, and political confusion, that, somewhere, every one of these people actually hold these rules and values dear, inside. And when contradictions are seriously but caringly brought before them, they will be open to and recognize where those inconsistencies may exist. Or when brought before them, they will, at least, honestly search for better truths within themselves, those greater consistencies, and work hard to reevaluate their views about Israel as a settler state.

Link to the PsySR website: <https://psysr.net/>

Link to the complete PsySR statement: <https://psysr.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/PsySR-Declaration-of-Solidarity-with-Palestine.pdf>

Editor's note: The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS) is a Palestinian-led movement promoting boycotts, divestments, and economic sanctions against Israel.

Submitted by Hana R. Masud, PhD, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Dr. Atallah's Research Team at University of Massachusetts Boston, Community Psychology from National Louis University in Chicago, USA, Dr. Masud's research focuses on the coloniality of mental health services, and its impact on re-colonizing local resistance. Dr. Masud is the chair of Decolonial Racial Justice in Praxis, an initiative of Psychologists for Social Responsibility <http://psysr.org/>, a group of doctoral students and faculty of color committed to studying the psychology of colonization, to liberating psychologists, and building a movement to push for a decolonial turn. Also an active participant in the Global Psychosocial Network, composed of experts dealing with the horrors and atrocities of imperial relations, capitalism and the humanitarian crises it creates around the world, Dr. Masud aims to build collaborative partnerships with mental health workers and marginalized communities in shared efforts to transform conditions of inequity towards wellness and justice in Palestine.

APA Advocacy

APA Advocacy Washington Update

Compiled by Stephanie Miodus

The following information consists of excerpts gathered from emails sent by the APA Advocacy Washington Update - a weekly newsletter which highlights how APA is working to advance the discipline and practice of psychology on Capitol Hill and beyond. The goal of this section is to promote advocacy in a variety of ongoing actions for peace by the APA so that Division 48 members and our readers can be involved in these efforts. The peacebuilding efforts below highlight a few initiatives which promote peace and social justice, but there are many other relevant peace-related advocacy efforts. For more information on these, join APA's Psychology Advocacy Network to stay updated on legislative issues impacting psychology and receive action alerts directly to your inbox by [signing up](#), or learn more about [APA's advocacy priorities](#) for 2021.

Advocating for an end to corporal punishment in schools, [APA has endorsed](#) the Protecting Our Students in Schools Act ([H.R. 3836/S. 2029](#)), which would ban corporal punishment in any school that receives federal funding. The legislation, introduced by Representative A. Donald McEachin, (D-VA), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), and Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT), establishes a series of enforcement protections, including by the U.S. attorney general and the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, and it authorizes a grant program to improve school climate and reduce exclusionary and harmful discipline practices. The bill aligns with many of [APA's PreK-12 Advocacy Priorities](#). For more information, please contact Kenneth Polishchuk at kp Polishchuk@apa.org.

Highlighting the importance of mental health care for unaccompanied immigrant children. APA submitted written testimony to the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Energy and Commerce hearing titled "[A Humane Response: Prioritizing the Well-Being of Unaccompanied Children](#)." The testimony explained how the unique challenges these children face lead to high levels of anxiety, depression, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It also highlighted the importance of mental health care for immigrant children. For more information, please contact Serena Dávila at sdavila@apa.org.

Urging Congress to address the nation's gun violence crisis. At a May 20 congressional hearing in the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary, APA advocated in [written testimony](#) for Congress to pass essential reforms to our nation's gun laws. APA asserted Congress should take an evidence-based, public health approach to reduce preventable firearms-related injuries and mortalities. APA expressed support of the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021 ([H.R. 8/S.529](#)) to close preexisting loopholes that allow unlicensed gun sellers to avoid comprehensive background checks on firearms sales. The association also urged Congress to provide funding and resources to assist states with extreme risk protection orders and crisis intervention teams/mental health response teams, as well as safe firearms storage options. For more information, please contact Ben Vonachen at bvonachen@apa.org.

Using psychological science to support The American Dream and Promise Act, APA submitted a [letter of support](#) for H.R. 6, The American Dream and Promise Act of 2021, to be entered into the record for the Senate Judiciary Committee's hearing on the legislation. In the letter, APA illustrated how psychological research supports this legislation, which would help alleviate the stress experienced by immigrants by eliminating their fear of deportation. APA also supports legislation that helps keep families together. For more information, please contact Serena Dávila at sdavila@apa.org.

Photo by Colin Lloyd
on Unsplash



Photo by Chris Boese on Unsplash

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology
Get Involved in Division 48

What Can I Do? How do I get involved?

Below are activities for Division 48 student, early career, mid-career, and late-career members or fellows to jump into to work for peace.

- Write a summary of your latest work, and share it with *The Peace Psychologist*. Better yet, become a member of *The Peace Psychologist* editorial team!
- Join President Nasrat's *National Healing Initiative*.
- Submit a paper, a poster, workshop, a film, or another scholarly work to the APA Convention. The call-for-proposals is posted within a few weeks after the current convention ends--with deadlines ranging from October to December.
- Serve on the Executive Committee--not all posts are elected. Key roles such as APA Program Chair, Student & Early Career Chair, Internet Editor, and Editor of *The Peace Psychologist* are appointed. Tell someone your interest. Maybe you want to assist first to see if it's a good fit for how you would like to be involved.
- Review abstracts submitted for the APA Convention.
- Contribute to the Division 48 listserv.
- Submit your work to the *Journal of Peace and Conflict*. Review manuscripts, write book reviews, or form a writer's group to support your colleagues' work.
- Attend Executive Committee meetings--better yet, bring an item to share that you think will move Division 48 ahead in terms of peacemaking. Agenda items go to President Nasrat for consideration: [nnasrat@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:nasrat@thechicagoschool.edu).
- Volunteer to assist Executive Committee members--you'll get involved, experience a quality mentorship opportunity, and add to to the Division's work.
- Create your own ideas--and bring them to fruition with Division 48 peers.

Join us--be a part of peace!

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology

Small Grants Award Program for Research, Education, or Community Projects

How to Apply

Each year's application becomes available on the Division website in the spring, and proposals are typically due mid-May.

While the specifics may be updated in coming years, the general procedure will remain the same. Upload the following documents.

- o Current curriculum vita or résumé of Project Leader/s or Primary Investigator/s.
- o Application Letter/Document with project leader name, address, phone, e-mail, and proposal title.
(can be a visual presentation, e.g., Video, Sway, Prezi, Canva, Infographic)
- o Grant proposal document in Microsoft Word or PDF format
(not exceeding 5-7 double-spaced typed pages excluding references)

Make sure to include

- 1) Brief description of the proposed project
- 2) Purpose of the proposed project and expected benefits for the target population
- 3) Potential contribution of the project to the field of peace psychology
- 4) Timeline for initiation, implementation, and completion of the project
- 5) Plan for the evaluation of the project
- 6) Itemized budget for requested amount of funding
- 7) Qualifications and experience of applicant(s) relevant to the project, identifying if principal applicant is a graduate student or recent graduate

Prepare Now!

Applications for Division 48's Small Grants are accepted each spring. It's not too early to begin thinking through the research to which you'd like such a grant to be applied. The Division 48 Small Grants Committee will announce decisions in mid-summer of the award year.. When evaluating proposals, the committee will consider the probability that a project will fulfill its specific purpose (#2 above) and the project's potential for advancing the field of peace psychology (#3) within the proposed time frame and budget (#4 and #6).

For questions related to the application process, please contact the Small Grants Committee Chairperson: Breeda McGrath [email: bmcgrath@thechicagoschool.edu]

DIVISION 48 WORKING GROUP REPORTS

PEACE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

Call for "Teaching Peace" Instructional Materials: Are you a parent, teacher, or peace activist concerned about facilitating development of peacefulness in children, students, or citizens? The Peace Education Working Group collects instructional materials that might be useful for teaching people to be more peaceful. These materials are available on the "Teach Peace" section of the Division 48 website. To access them, click on the menu icon at the top right side of the home page, and select "Teach Peace." The Working Group is updating and enhancing the "Teach Peace" section of the website. We need your help. Please send us any materials you have developed that might be useful for teaching peace and that you are willing to have added to our website feature. For college and university teaching, we urgently need current materials that might be useful for developing or enhancing lectures or courses addressing the psychology of peace, conflict, and violence. For example, we need relevant course syllabi, reading lists, assignments, lecture outlines, PowerPoint presentations, demonstrations, and class activities. Please send any such materials as an e-mail attachment to Linden Nelson, Working Group Chairperson, at lnelson@calpoly.edu.

OTHER WORKING GROUPS & CONTACT PERSONS

+ Justice for Animals

M.L. "Candi" Sicoli

+ Immigration

Stephanie Miodus

Linden L. Nelson is an Emeritus Professor of Psychology at California Polytechnic State University. His research and writing has addressed development of cooperation and competition in children, peace education, militaristic attitude, and peaceful personality.



Dr Steven E Handwerker is Founder and CEO of The International Association of the Advancement of Human Welfare, Inc a 501 c-3 since 1997. Dr. Handwerker utilizes common core values as catalysts for promoting peace in individuals and groups. He integrates humanistic, religious/esoteric and peace psychology in his practice.

SPIRITUALITY AND HUMANITARIAN PRACTICES WORKING GROUP

Our peace-building projects, over the past 26 years and over 250 presentations, have included five international endeavors. Anyone wishing further information contact Steve at peacewk@peacewk.org

Join us if writing for peace is your passion: email rtreptow@email.fielding.edu

Editorial Team: *The Peace Psychologist*

WELCOME STEPHANIE BECKMAN TO OUR TEAM!



Stephanie Beckman

Stephanie Elizabeth Beckman teaches at Madison College and is a 2019 recipient of the *Phi Theta Kappa* "Golden Apple" instructor impact award. She earned a BS in French, Education, & African Studies at the University of Wisconsin and attended Université Gaston-Berger in Sénégal while researching the lived experiences of veiled women "ibadatou" on campus. After teaching at Matsudo Kokusai Koutougakkou (Japan), she pursued her MA in Education, English, & TESOL (Edgewood College). She is an International Psychology (Organizations & Systems) doctoral student (Chicago School of Professional Psychology). Her research examines organizational inputs toward forgiveness, healing, and peacemaking.

Noah Shaw

Noah Shaw has a BA in Integrated Marketing Communication (Pepperdine University) and a Masters in Dispute Resolution (Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution; 2021). Noah is the Peace Operations Coordinator at *Pollack Peacebuilding Systems (PPS)*, assisting and coordinating PPS staff by establishing and maintaining peacemaking operations.

Noah serves as Managing Editor for *The Peace Psychologist* team, but will be stepping away from the team to pursue other avenues of peace: "I have sincerely enjoyed working with such a wonderful team with a shared goal of building peace in the world and will miss them greatly. Thank you to everyone who made this a memorable and enjoyable experience!"



Stephanie Miodus

Stephanie Miodus, MA, MEd is a PhD student in School Psychology at Temple University. Clinically, she is interested in working with children with autism and youth in juvenile detention. Her main research interest is the school to prison pipeline for children with autism and alternatives to harsh disciplinary practices in schools that push children out of classrooms and into the justice system.



Joshua Uyheng

Joshua Uyheng is a PhD student in Societal Computing (Carnegie Mellon University). His research examines the political psychology of populism in the Global South, network dynamics of online conflicts and digital disinformation, & critical approaches to decolonizing computational social science. From the Philippines, Josh holds mathematics and psychology degrees (Ateneo de Manila University). He has been a research scientist and policy analyst for organizations, focusing on fiscal policy reforms & universal healthcare.



Kisane Prutton

Kisane Prutton is a PhD Candidate (University of Derby, UK), as well as mediator, conflict coach & psychotherapist. She works with persons and organisations experiencing workplace stress and conflict. Her PhD explores women's experiences of everyday peacebuilding in Northern Ireland, being informed by her conflict resolution & peacebuilding interests, and her prior work supporting adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, domestic violence, & rape. Kisane was formerly a documentary producer/director for television companies such as the BBC.



Ousswa Ghannouchi

Ousswa Ghannouchi has a BA in Psychology & Criminology, and a Masters in Conflict Analysis and Resolution (George Mason University). She is Assistant Director of Transcript Evaluation at her *alma mater* in international admissions (INTO University Partnership). Ousswa is pursuing a graduate certificate in Middle East & Islamic Studies to gain historical background on her region of interest, the Middle East & North Africa. Her research interests are psycho-social trauma healing, and grassroots peacebuilding in intractable conflict settings.



Aashna Banerjee

Aashna Banerjee is currently pursuing her doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology at Ball State University. Identifying as an intersectional feminist, she has volunteered with numerous community-based organizations in India over the years to help improve the well-being of women and other marginalized groups. Her research interests lie at the intersection of gender, peace psychology, and internationally marginalized populations.



Anupriya Kukreja

Anupriya Kukreja is a Political Science and Psychology graduate of Ashoka University (India). She was an undergraduate hospital psychology intern and Albright Fellow at Wellesley College (Boston) Madeleine K. Albright Institute for Global Affairs. She is a research writer for *Pollack Peacebuilding Systems* and editorial intern at the *Behavioral Scientist*. She likes to connect behaviour science, spirituality, and ideology with policy, peace and conflict resolution and has a blog *Kukiinsights*.



Natalie Davis

Natalie Davis holds a BA in Integrative Studies (Organizational Administration concentration) and a minor in Nonprofit Studies (George Mason University). She is a full-time Research Initiatives Specialist at her *alma mater*, and also a Research Writer for *Pollack Peacebuilding Systems*. Natalie is particularly interested in studying international and intergroup conflict and the latest research pertaining to the value of diversity and shared perspectives.



Audris Jimenez

Audris Jimenez holds a Master's in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She is currently a Clinical Case Coordinator at a youth Alternative to Incarceration program in New York City and a research assistant for the Boricua Youth Study through the New York State Psychiatric Institute-Columbia University. Her interests include working with youth in the justice system, with a focus on the Latino/a community.



Robin Lynn Treptow

Robin Lynn Treptow is **Editor-in-Chief of *The Peace Psychologist*** (since 2019). She holds two psychology doctorates in peace-related disciplines (child clinical and attachment theory). Robin is Div 48's Secretary, and on the Board for three other nonprofits whose work abets social justice. Robin brings relationship-driven infant mental health know-how to the field of peacemaking to advance the common good.

The Peace Psychologist tribute, continued from Page 1

DIVISION 48's newsLetter journey

- **We've grown our team over time**--from one to four, then to ten! We began with a few Student Reviewers (2019), who transitioned to Associate Editors (2019), and over time added a Managing Editor (2020) and Marketing Editor (2020) as other incoming Associate Editors joined us and the action.
- When APA was in-person and on-the-ground, we printed paper copies of the [Summer 2019](#) issue to distribute during Division 48 programming, in the hospitality suite, and in the walkways of the convention center.
- **We've laid out major sections of each issue**—e.g., *Member News*, *Student and Small Grant Awardee*, *Peace and Conflict Spotlights*, *APA Convention*, *Small Grants*, *Peace Radar*, *Advocacy*, *Featured University*, *Peace Museums*, *Peace Awards*, and *Good News for Animals* to name a few—keeping them consistent so it's familiar for our readers.
- **Keeping things fresh by exploring new ideas**--such as our upcoming (see this issue) *Section on Spirituality and Peace*.
- **Our Marketing Editor**, Steph Miodus, is steadily expanding our reach—keeping data on that process.
- **We've kept a pulse on working groups**—printing their accomplishments and revamping material they send us into new formats, e.g., universities with peace studies programs, CODAPAR report summary.
- **This year we've added a 3rd issue to a prior biannual schedule**—and may expand to quarterly publication in 2022.
- **We've grown our technical toolset**, e.g., a free Canva platform per our 501(c)3 status, to keep design elements fresh and maximize collaborative generation of content, layout, and look.
- **We've built relationships** with scholars from the *North American and Alaska Native Society for Indian Psychologists (SIP)*—featuring in recent issues SIP events or having articles from SIP-associated authors who've committed to more.
- **We've drawn in an array of contributors** whose global voices, perspectives, and expertise enrich peace's content and flavor, e.g., Philippines, Great Britain, India, Sierra Leone (see this issue).
- **This eclectic team has thrown itself full throttle** into generating novel peace content, digging into their hearts and minds for "just the right story" for a topic, e.g., a peace organization feature for *Peace Radar*, or "just the right angle" to enliven and perk up assigned mundane peace news.
- **Established team members** Aashna, Kisane, Josh, and Steph M. have enthusiastically, unselfishly and warmly, welcomed a stream of fresh writers and editors—kindly sharing tips such as how to do a good interview, what to put in a book review, or tricks for staying immersed in peace journalism's mission amid competing—sometime urgent and personal—family, work, or school obligations.
- Each editorial team member brings energy and flavor to the work--taking on a Section issue-after-issue, e.g., Kisane with [Student Spotlight](#), and Josh with [Peace Radar](#) and the [Small Grants Spotlight](#)--or yielding the floor to a writer for whom the Section now resonates.
- A half-dozen of us were accepted to present at **Peace Psychology 2020** on the ethics of peace journalism. Although that conference was cancelled we learned much by working on shared manuscripts towards our shared goal of peace.
- Some of us (see above) will present at **the APA 2021 Virtual Convention** on use of print and media peace journalism to generate cross-cultural harmony amid a global health crisis. We hope to honor peace journalism in some way analogous to Dr. Trimble's view ([The Peace Psychologist, 2021, Volume 29, Issue 1](#))—doing the work together.
- Likewise, we nod in thanks to **Jeremy Pollack and Noah Shaw** whose keen grasp of magazine publishing has enabled our team to flourish as we grew and to John McConnell who gets it on the website for us.
- See our complete archive [here](#)--as well as issues of *The Peace Psychologist* that precede our shared time...

... join us on Division 48's peace journalism journey ...

Dr. Kalayjian interview, continued from page 19

Dr. K:Therefore, emotional intelligence is very important but then healing the trauma is very important. The research shows that those who are traumatized with high levels of PTSD cannot empathize with others. That is the reason that certain conflicts like Israel Palestine and many tribal conflicts in Africa don't really disappear or get resolved because all parties are traumatized and no one is focused on their healing but they're focused on the defensive and using reactive approaches rather than authentic responses after healing. Healing the trauma is very important because if it's not healed, it can be transferred to up to fourteen generations and, or result in horizontal violence. We have campaigns around the world and what we do is we prepare banners in the native authentic language that we give to all NGOs, universities, and similar institutions that say "don't be a crab in the bucket pulling one another down; be a true humanitarian and lift one another up."

These campaigns show that with the colonization and oppression, there is this victim mentality where the pressure is pressing down from the authorities/systems down to the people and the frustration is building from down up and there is no here to release these frustrations because we are still oppressed in certain ways so it blows up horizontally – who's next to me, my brothers, neighbors, etc, so consciously I'm hurting my family. Every country I've been to experiences this phenomenon – Armenians say it's an Armenian disease, Haitians say it's a Haitian disease, Sierra Leoneans swear that's exactly how Sierra Leoneans behave, Rwanda, Palestine, the same thing. Small nations that are oppressed, or minorities, experience horizontal violence. The horizontal violence campaign, the forgiveness campaign, and the ecological campaign are crucial to our healing process.

Just like we are taking advantage of women in every ethnic community, we are doing the same thing as humanity to Mother Earth, we're taking her for granted and looking at what's happening. On World Happiness Day, we had a program at Central park. We disturbed these heart shaped seed cards and when you put them in the earth you can grow different flowers or whatever plants you prefer. We gave people the seeds to plant and we do the same thing around the world as a part of our sixth step in our seven steps of healing model.



The seven steps of the healing model that we use around the world have been received positively all over the world. We can even teach it to an illiterate or uneducated person so you don't need to have a background in psychology to understand this model even though it's deeply rooted in psychological principles.

Read more about Dr. Kalayjian's 7-Step Integrative Healing Model (Kalayjian, 2002, 2010, 2017, 2018) in the "Spirituality & Peace" section of this issue, or by visiting the ATOP Meaningful world website: meaningfulworld.com.

PP: You are mainly affiliated with APA Divisions 1, 35, 48, 52 and 56. However, you have expressed interest in increasing your participation with Division 48. What contributions do you see yourself making to Division 48? What can Division 48 members learn from the global work you do? Is there anything else you would like to share with The Peace Psychologist readers?

Dr. K: I would like to share with my colleagues two quotations that are part of our philosophy. One is "Shared sorrow is half sorrow, while shared joy is full joy." The other is "When one helps another, both become stronger." These are our mottos. Every time we are humbled and we see how the work shifts us and we learn so much. I have many stories from our volunteers in terms of how they grew and were able to improve their own health locally through their work on the mission but that's another interview.

I would love to partner with all the wonderful people already in the Division and see what ways I can help with my experience managing and participating on every mission run by Meaningful World. I have been to forty eight countries and twenty six states, and some of these countries we visit frequently within our one hundred and ten humanitarian missions, and it is the most beautiful experience in the world. It nurtures self-development and connects you with others. We grow together as a team in addition to helping the people we are serving.

Read more about Dr. Kalayjian's 7-Step Integrative Healing Model (Kalayjian, 2002, 2010, 2017, 2018) in the "Spirituality and Peace" section, or by visiting the ATOP Meaningful world website: meaningfulworld.com.

Samer Sabbour, continued from page 21

Given the nature of COVID-19 restrictions, which have prevented face-to-face meetings and interactions, stay at home and lockdown have necessitated the use of online mediums for connection. Our virtual support groups allow individuals to connect with another to help mitigate feelings of isolation, stresses, traumas, and anxieties experienced during COVID-19 by giving opportunities for sharing and experiencing interconnectedness.

Our support groups utilize the 7-Step Integrative Healing Model (Kalayjian, 2002, 2010, 2017, 2018), which is often used during our humanitarian missions in areas impacted by traumatic and stressful events such as natural disasters and conflicts. To date, we have used the model in 48 countries and 26 states in the US, as well as across eight regions of the world. This widespread implementation supports SDG's 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 16, and 17.

The 7-Step Model is a biopsychosocial and eco-spiritual method, in which various aspects of emotions are assessed, identified, explored, expressed, processed, validated, and finally re-integrated. Support group facilitators invite participants to share emotions and receive empathy from the other participants. It is an integrative approach, and it incorporates various psychological modalities centered around achieving mind-eco balance, meaning-making, mindfulness, forgiveness, emotional management, nurturing emotional intelligence through empathy, and ecological consciousness. Most recently, in 2019 our humanitarian outreach teams volunteered in Nigeria and Armenia. In Armenia, they set up the country's first suicide prevention lifeline and established the first *Psi Chi* (International Honor Society for Psychology) chapter in Armenia in 2020. The team is preparing to return in April of 2021, this time addressing the trauma caused by the conflict in Artsakh

which has resulted in the deaths of 5,000 Armenian soldiers, the wounding of 1,000 persons and the fleeing of over 150,000 others to Yerevan and other parts of Armenia (Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention [ATOP], 2021).

The traumas from this conflict will also be compounded by the impact of COVID-19. Women in Armenia, often bearing solely responsibility for their children and elderly parents, face domestic violence and poverty. Despite their employment in various sectors, their average monthly wages equate to only 64 percent of male wages, resulting in Armenia having one of the largest gender pay gaps in all of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ATOP, 2021), reflecting the vulnerability of women during the global pandemic.

MeaningfulWorld has also hosted monthly virtual workshops focused on four modules: Mindful Leadership and Forgiveness, Selfcare and Post Traumatic Growth, Post Trauma Healing and Meaning Making, and Conflict Transformation and Peace Building, which are accessible to the community. The purpose of these workshops and support groups is to transform traumatic experiences into ones of learning and meaning, ultimately empowering and uplifting victims of trauma. Our recent 27 January 2021 *Mindfulness and Forgiveness* workshop included information on the five shadows of life, service to self and others, mindful leadership skills, forgiveness myths, definitions, and benefits; a guided meditation from visionary speaker Ali Fischer; and a support group facilitated by ATOP members.

During the support group participants frequently voiced their concern over the new COVID-19 strain in America and unemployment due to the pandemic. Other related feelings included sadness over having to adjust to the "new norm," and experiencing the same routine day after day. Feelings of frustration towards others who do not take the virus seriously were mentioned in addition to feelings of anxiety. Participants expressed a high level of grief over losing a mother and a friend



Photo by Rebecca Zaal

to the pandemic. After the expression of these negative emotions, many group members expressed empathy and joined in tears and hugs, comforting one another and validating others' pain, loss, frustrations, and anxiety.

Lastly, participants joined one another for our soul-surfing session, involving specific exercises designed to promote balance of chi energy and remove blockages from the body's chakras. These point-specific movements and postures help bring about emotional, physical, and spiritual wellbeing. These movements are reinforced with positive affirmations, visualization, and color consciousness for a holistic impact.

With regards to specific projects, on 25 March 2021 we presented our work on mitigating the impact of COVID-19 during the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in a parallel program "Gender Empowerment and Transforming Gender Based Violence: Utilizing Emotional Intelligence." At this panel discussion we shared tools intended to help transform violence facing women and young girls worldwide using the 7-Step Integrative Healing Model and by teaching *IDEAL*: identifying, describing, expressing, and letting go of trauma to make room for health and well-being. We also are very mindful of reinforcing and educating our communities regarding the United Nations SDGs: Good Health & Well-being (3), Quality Education (4), Reduced Inequalities (10), Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions (16), & Partnership for Goals (17) as we reinforce the motto "Women's Rights are Human Rights!"

Ultimately, we remain committed to working in underprivileged and vulnerable communities and fostering peace and justice worldwide by aiding efforts for global COVID-19 recovery.

Recommendations

Considering disruptions to mental health services during this pandemic, it is recommended that all persons involved within their communities, and particularly those with the skills and resources necessary to provide and promote mental health interventions and support, do so in a manner that is accessible, effective, and reflective of the current circumstances. Virtual interventions and opportunities for community involvement are free and accessible and allow for individuals in underprivileged communities that may be otherwise inaccessible to be reached out to directly. Interventions must work to support those in the most vulnerable segments of varied communities and promote their wellbeing. Additionally, they must ensure that members in these communities have their hardships effectively addressed. Finally, educating about relevant skills and exercises that can be conducted to help mitigate the stresses of the pandemic can be greatly beneficial.

Conclusion

Ultimately, COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on communities around the world both economically and mentally. Though the pandemic appears to be winding down in wealthier countries such as the United States, many poorer nations remain without adequate access to the vaccine with experts warning that this could prolong the pandemic in these countries until 2023. Additionally, the pandemic has also

exacerbated existing health and economic disparities present within nations, afflicting marginalized communities of color at much higher rates than wealthier segments of the population. As such, it is of the utmost importance that civil society work to undo many of the institutional vices that people in underserved and underprivileged communities face even after the pandemic. With the rates of psychological distress having reached extreme levels during the pandemic, focus on reducing these rates and helping communities and individuals address their post-pandemic needs should remain a top priority for policymakers and civil society. Such an approach underscores what we believe at Meaningfulworld: "When one helps another, BOTH become stronger!"

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Peace Award, continued from Page 24

PP: *What is your current area of interest and how do you hope to utilize your work for promoting peace?*

PC: My current area of interest is evaluating and exploring African political systems, specifically looking at the repression of the right to protest in many African countries regardless of constitutional rights to protest. In terms of promoting peace and how I aim to do so, I mainly see my research as a gateway to information. Many researchers who do this type of research do not have a big enough platform to make real and tangible change. I hope to make my research accessible to Zimbabweans and Africans alike so that they know that their efforts for peace on the continent are not in vain.

PP: *How did you become involved with The International Peace Research Association Foundation?*

PC: I became involved with The International Peace Research Association Foundation by pure chance. I have always been interested in peace studies and research on peace and one day decided to write about what was happening in Zimbabwe. In the process of doing this, my Mama suggested I look up organizations that do this work and I found The International Peace Research Association Foundation just in time to apply for their research grant.

PP: *You have been involved with many other international organizations over the years and have done much needed work with them. Can you speak a little on what those experiences were like?*

PC: Working with international organizations gave me the opportunity to see the world through other people's eyes. I come from a land locked and small Southern African country so traveling to Syria to work with female refugees facing challenges attaining mental health services, for example, exposed me to the many ills that come from war and unrest. Having the opportunity to look at the world from the 30 000 feet level, showed me where I can fit into the world and what I can do for my country, continent and world given the resources I have. I quickly learned that doing good has no geographic boundaries, one can do good wherever one is.

PP: *If you could leave our readers with any piece of information or knowledge, or an ask, regarding your current research on the constitutional right to peacefully protest in Zimbabwe, what would that be?*

PC: I have read many constitutions during my research in an effort to understand politics, people and culture. Most recently, I juxtaposed the US constitution with the Zimbabwean constitution. There are many similarities, among them, the right to peacefully protest or as stated in the first amendment of the US constitution, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

PC (cont.): What I know is that people want freedom to speak their mind without fear of repression, that is true of people here in the US as well as people in Zimbabwe. What I would ask readers to do is to read their constitution, be familiar with the foundation that has formed your people, culture and politics and wherever you find yourself, whether in America or Zimbabwe, uphold the freedom and right to hear and be heard without fear of repression.

PP: *Do you have any idea of where you hope to go next with your research?*

PC: My hope for my research is to make it available to others so that they have an idea of what is happening in Zimbabwe. I also hope that my research encourages other Zimbabwean and African academics to use their talents as researchers to expose atrocities by regimes that refuse to listen to the grievances of their people. Most of all, I hope for peace in Zimbabwe, in my lifetime and beyond.

The Peace Research Grant application is currently open and will close August 31, 2021. Anyone interested in applying can find more information [here](#).



INTERNATIONAL PEACE
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Awardee Biography

Paidamoyo Chikate (Paid) is a PhD student in Evaluation and Data Analytics in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She holds a BA in Gender Studies from the College of Saint Benedict and a masters' degree in Public Policy from the

University of Minnesota. Her background is in international development and evaluation. She has worked with international organizations in partnership with small scale West African female farmers, youth development in Morocco and mental health access for Syrian women during the Syrian civil war. She has also worked as an evaluator for the United Nations on Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 6 in Africa.



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS--THE PEACE PSYCHOLOGIST

This PDF of *The Peace Psychologist* has been sent out via the listserv and can also be found on the Peace Psychology website peacepsychology.org. There are several very timely pieces in the newsletter so don't wait too long to look over the content! Thanks to all who contributed!

Please consider submitting an article for the next issue of *The Peace Psychologist*. Our Editorial Team will reach out soon to those we know are interested to submit manuscripts. We welcome the following types of submissions on or before October 31, 2021.

- Announcements
- Short article related to a topic in peace psychology
- Brief description of your work (research or practice) related to peace psychology
- Summary of your recent presentations or publications related to peace psychology
- Short article about a peacemaker
- A letter to the editor
- Any notice of recognitions/awards/congratulations
- Article about an organization that works for peace
- Reviews of peace psychology textbooks, or books relevant to peace —or ideas of books to review.
- Peace-related poetry, art, cartoons, & digital photographs (with copyright permission)

I am especially interested in the following:

- Articles showcasing a university's peace or social justice program(s).
- Student or early career members (with a designated reviewer mentor) to review articles.
- Calls-for-papers, conferences, fellowships, job openings, and so forth for peace scholars.
- Member news—graduations, articles or books published, awards, and so forth.
- Feature articles on new members (e.g., student, early career, from another APA Division).

Submission length varies (500-3000 words). Please look over past issues to get a sense of length (see <http://peacepsychology.org/newsletter>). You may be requested to trim your submission; editors may also shorten at their discretion if the print deadline is close.

Sometimes we get more submissions than we can handle. So, it might end up in a future issue. Submissions should be in APA Style 7 with citations and references. Keep your title to 10 words or so. Include an author biography of 25-50 words and a high-resolution photo—of you, or relevant to the topic about which you are writing; we will print these as space allows.

+++++

Best Regards—Robin

Submissions can be sent to rtreptow@email.fielding.edu

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