New Orleans, Here We Come!

Division 48 Program at APA 2006

Michael R. Hulsizer

Division 48, the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence, is well represented at the 2006 American Psychological Association convention in New Orleans. Programming covers a range of timely topics from media violence to international conflict. The convention dates are August 10 – 13 in New Orleans. See http://www.apa.org/convention06/ for more convention information and http://www.peacepsych.org for special Division 48 hospitality suite and New Orleans service project programming.

The program committee received nine proposals for symposia, workshops, or discussions, 20 poster proposals, and eight paper proposals. Twenty individuals associated with the division served as reviewers. Each individual reviewed at least five proposals resulting in each proposal having three different sets of eyes examine the submission. I offer my sincere thanks to all of the reviewers who participated in this process.

Following the review process, the Division was able to extend invitations to seven of the symposia, workshop, or discussion proposals, twelve of the poster submissions, and three of the paper proposals. Topics addressed in papers, symposia, discussions, and workshops include:

- Working for Peace and Justice: Applying Psychology for Positive Actions
- Perspectives on War, Other Forms of Institutional Violence, and Peace
- Ecological Approach to Promoting Peace Psychology
- Forgiveness Research in Context: Northern Ireland, South Africa, the Midwest
- Gandhi, the Dalai Lama, and Nonviolence: Intervention and Research Strategies
- Shaping Post 9/11 Dialogue: Task Force Assessments and Comments
- Financial and Symbolic Reparations: Possibilities for Repair and Policy Implications
- Just Peacemaking Inventory
- Psychiatric Abuse and Psychological Torture of Chinese Falun Gong Practitioners
- Psychopolitical Dynamics and Consequences of Torture

Topics addressed in the poster session include:

- Attitudes Toward Violence Against Women in the State of Kuwait
- Health and Mental Health Effects of Political Forgiveness: Reconciliation in Iraqi Refugees
- Community-Based Solutions to the Hindu: Muslim Conflict in Gujarat, India
- Endangered Lives of Women: Peace and Mental Health Among Tibetan Refugees
- Defying Genocidal Action: Heroism During the Holocaust
- Human Rights Discourse, Liberation Psychology, and U.S.-Based Activism
- Collapse of Yugoslavia: Analysis of Tudjman and Milosevic's Symbolic Narrative
- Political and Moral Dimensions in Children's Trauma and War Narratives
- Developing Measures of Conflict Attitudes: A Tool for Peace Psychologists
- Why People Conflict in the Virtual World: A SEM Study of Cognitive Behavioral Model of Online Hostility
- Beyond Trauma: An Exploration of Positive Coping Strategies Among Refugees
- Building Bridges Out of Barricades: Understanding NYPD Hostage Negotiations

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From the Editor

GREAT PEOPLE are those who are able to consistently choose peace, despite intense provocation and seductive opportunities for violent retribution against their adversaries. But great people, such as the winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, were not born great—they became great. An important question now is: What were the factors that guided them towards peace—what are the seeds of peace?

Studying the lives of famous people may shed light on the factors that influence pro-peace attitudes, values and behaviors. One may find that early experiences, such as having a guide or mentor, may be influential, or being exposed to a religion or significant lay readings. It is also possible that one’s culture may provide a strong influence—for example, the principle of Ubuntu (human interdependence) in many African cultures. Certain values, personality traits, temperamental styles or cognitive processes may also predispose people to peaceful and non-violent solutions to problems. However, many of these traits and values are present in many people, yet only a few become great instruments of peace. It will be instructive to make an analysis of the combination of factors that unite to produce this outcome.

What made the difference for you? What got you to put your energy towards peace and non-violent solutions to problems when it would have been easier to just go about your business, follow the road of least resistance, give in to your baser impulses?

What were the “seeds of peace” for you?

You are invited to unravel this knot and let us know what your conclusions are. Please write a few sentences (anonymously if you choose) on what factors influenced your decision to take a stand for peace. Please send these to the address below (indicating if you would like to remain anonymous) and we will publish some of them in a future edition. Learning from you will enrich all of us!

This edition of Peace Psychology offers several examples of great people of peace: Kelly Dougherty, Mohamed ElBaradei, Doris Miller … but we also recognize the great work done by the numerous individuals working for peace through the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence: Peace Psychology Division of APA. You will find in the pages of this edition the usual messages, working group, committee and task force reports, all the work done by people who didn’t have to—but wanted to—work for peace. People like you.

Enjoy this revamped and redesigned edition of Peace Psychology, which reflects the hard work and artistry of Judy Stainbrook, our graphic designer and copy editor.

See you in New Orleans in August where we will once again have a terrific program at our annual convention. Please submit your reactions, responses and contributions for our next edition by sending your submissions to the address below by September 15, 2006.

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ONE OF THE GREATEST PLEASURES OF SERVING within the leadership of the Society is the opportunity to meet so many truly amazing colleagues. I have gotten to know peace psychologists who work around the globe in very disparate contexts such as schools, government, organizations, and NGOs. These individuals are engaged in myriad activities, such as research, activism, practice, teaching, and consulting. The work being done involves such seemingly disparate topics as domestic violence, school shootings, workplace violence, structural forms of violence (e.g., institutionalized forms of bias and the systematic violation of human rights), torture, and mass violence (including ethnopolitical conflict, genocide, and war). Yet, despite this incredible variability, there are common threads tying together the work of these psychologists. All possess an abiding concern for others, reflect a deep commitment to their work, struggle to maintain hope during these challenging times, and endeavor tirelessly to build more peaceful communities at home and around the globe.

Those of us involved in efforts toward peace are fundamentally aware of the breadth and depth of the field, as noted above, as well as the commitment of all peace practitioners. However, it is clear that many individuals in the United States and around the world have numerous misconceptions about what it means to work for peace. Moreover, these misconceptions are being used to attack the fundamental construct of peace and the work of peace practitioners.

David Horowitz has recently published a book entitled The Professors: The 101 Most Dangerous Academics in America. The book description states:

David Horowitz reveals a shocking and pervasive culture of academics who are poisoning the minds of today’s college students. The Professors is a wake-up call to all those who assume that a college education is sans hatred of America and the American military and support for America’s terrorist enemies.

The list of academics included in this text can be found online at a number of sites. What is most notable when one examines the list, however, is the number of peace studies professors who have made the list. It appears that the sole rationale for their inclusion in the book is their work related to studying and teaching peace.

Although The Professors has many methodological flaws, (for example, Horowitz does not appear to have attended classes or interviewed most of the professors that he profiles), it appears to be selling. Yesterday, The Professors had a sales ranking of 953 on amazon.com. In less than 12 hours, as I finish this column, the ranking has moved to 598. Moreover, this book is being discussed by political pundits as fact and as an argument for elimination of the tenure system. Similarly, Students for Academic Freedom is advocating for the passage and adoption of the Academic Bill of Rights (ABR) legislatively by state as well as by individual institutions. The ABR purportedly is aimed at providing protection for political “conservatives” in the hiring process and also as protection for “conservative” students. This ABR is designed to counter what Horowitz describes as “the colonization of significant parts of the liberal arts academy by tenured radicals who are political activists rather than scholars, and the resulting intellectual corruption.” It should be noted, that the organization’s web site also provides an online mechanism for students to register and permanently log complaints about professors deemed as “liberal” through their “Forum on Abuses.” Again, many peace studies professors are being targeted via this forum.

Another web site, Discover the Networks: A Guide to the Political Left, lists not only individuals but also groups and expands beyond academia to include media, arts and culture, politics, and fund raisers. Again many organizations involved in work towards peace are included on these lists. Unfortunately, the descriptions of many of these groups distort their work. For example, in describing the work of one highly respected peace organization, the web site states, “While no one denies that peace is preferable to war, such groups use peace (an entirely honorable if sometimes impractical and unachievable goal) to mask their real agenda: the fomenting of hatred against the West, the destabilization of liberal democracies, and the abolition of capitalism.”

These web sites often provide a link to FrontpageMag.com where one can find a link to a t-shirt for purchase embossed with a picture of Senator Joseph McCarthy that reads, “McCarthy was right!” This appears to be a message that has truly been taken to heart.

Research defines propaganda as a vital tool used by an ingroup elite. It is designed to stigmatize and dehumanize the outgroup, as well as to present the outgroup as an imminent threat to the well-being or existence of the ingroup. Moreover, research argues that it is most effective when the propaganda relates to emotional issues, is used during times of war, targets those whose opinions are not well formed, and finally, when there is a vacuum of counter-information.

What all of this means is that those of us involved in work toward peace need to engage in an educational process informing those we know, our communities, and the media about the true nature of work towards peace. We need to present counter-information and work to alleviate fear. The following are some key points,
Message from the President
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but by no means a definitive list of points, that need to be made as part of this educational process.

1 It should be stressed that work in peace studies is not foundationally based on ideological perspectives or opinions. Rather, it is important for individuals to know that decades of research from a range of disciplines such as psychology and international relations on topics such as terrorism, war, effective conflict resolution, peacebuilding, reconciliation, etc. form the basis of the field. In other words, the work of peace practitioners and the pedagogy of peace are based on a foundation of scholarship, research, and study. It is important to present examples of such research and scholarship to highlight one's points when teaching or discussing one's work.

For it isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn’t enough to believe in it. One must work at it.

Eleanor Roosevelt

2 Some seem to believe that peace is the equivalent of passivity or inaction. Rather, it is important to note that work towards peace involves a significant amount of work. If peace were easy, everyone would be doing it! It takes work to learn the strategies of effective conflict resolution and peacebuilding and then put these into practice. It is important to provide examples of the effective use of these strategies, particularly in relation to long-term goals. Moreover, one can point to a plethora of examples where knowledge and research from psychology, sociology, international relations, peace studies, etc. has been ignored with tragic results. Additionally, it may be useful to draw on examples from history, as these may be less emotionally charged than current examples.

Non-violence means positive action.
You have to work for whatever you want.
You just don’t sit there doing nothing and hope to get what you want.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

3 It is important to point out that peace is not just an end product but also the process by which one achieves that goal. Violence and disregard for human rights have very real consequences not only for the victims but also for everyone involved—from bystanders to those defined as perpetrators. Moreover, traumas transcend the immediate victims and can have an impact on a culture in the form of unhealed group trauma and future generations. Again, there are research literatures examining the impact of violence on individuals and groups, including succeeding generations.

Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

4 In addition, it is important to recognize that peace is not simply an issue for liberals or conservatives, Republicans or Democrats, Right-wing or Left-wing, or any other group categorization that one would care to employ. Rather, it is a universal concern. Therefore, it behooves us not to begin a similar pattern of demonization of the “other” simply on the basis of group status. While there may be ideologues with which dialogue is less possible, it is important for us to endeavor to dialogue and work constructively together to find common ground in our search for peace. What this means, of course, is that we should model our own beliefs and knowledge through our interactions with others.

We must all have a care about humanity.

Honorable Gabrielle Kirk McDonald

Finally, I would add that in the face of dissent, we must not keep our work and knowledge silent. As most of you know, in addition to my research, I teach. I love teaching, and I work very hard to be respectful of my students and to model the kind of critical thinking that I require of my students. Regardless, I’m convinced that no matter what one teaches, does, or states, he or she may still be accused of bias. For example, I had a complaint on a course evaluation in my Holocaust class stating that I was biased against the Nazis and that it was unfair that I painted them in such a negative light. It appears that in these current political times, dissent and attempts to silence those working for peace may be inevitable.

It is therefore important to have networks for social support and collaboration with one’s professional activities. The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence can provide a home for such networking. Additionally, we can continue to grow and learn through the sharing of our work in such forums as the Peace Psychology newsletter, Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology, and the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association. I look forward to seeing everyone in New Orleans!
The DMZ Forum: A Group Dedicated to Transformation from Hostilities to Peace

Ethel Tobach
The City University of New York

On February 22 I had the opportunity to meet with a group of remarkable people who are committed to transforming land committed to hostility into a haven for people, plants, and animals. For over 50 years the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) has been part of a geopolitical vacuum and a symbol of war, tension and separation. During this period, nature in the zone has regenerated.

I long ago saw their effort as one that is the mission of Division 48: The Society for Peace, Conflict Resolution and Prevention of Violence. Many of our members are busily engaged in efforts to bring about sustainable human/animal environments that will encourage solution of many of our ecological and societal problems.

The convocation was held by the Turner Foundation, the DMZ Forum, and the Korea Society at the New York Headquarters of the Korea Society. In addition, representatives of a number of organizations were similarly committed: Mark A. Bucknam of the Council on Foreign Relations; Margaret L. Fox and Stephen Mills of the Sierra Club; Hazel Smith, a professor of international relations at the University of Warwick, Coventry, UK; Harry G. Barnes, Jr. of the Asia Society; George W. Archibald of the National Crane Foundation; John Waugh of IUCN (World Conservation Union); Choony Kim of the Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM); Christopher E. Paine of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC); Peter Hayes of the Nautilus Institute for Security and Sustainability of Australia, among others.

Dr. Ke Chung Kim, an entomologist at Pennsylvania State University, and the chair and founder of the DMZ Forum was present, as were Seung-Ho Lee and William Shore, officers of the Forum, and Hall Healy, principal of Facilitated Solutions International, consultant to the Forum.

Safeguarding the DMZ as a transboundary reserve will provide: 1) significant jobs and revenues from sustainable agriculture and eco-tourism; 2) water resources for the Peninsula; 3) a symbol of peace, an example of cooperation; 4) an opportunity to maintain and reintroduce species and habitats largely eliminated from the rest of Korea; 5) a rare chance to study what happens when an area like this is left untouched for over 50 years.

Dr. Kim has shared his vision of the immediate activities that might be undertaken by the Forum and those who support it for the conservation of the DMZ: the promotion of a coalition of people from South Korea, Japan, China and Russia with United Nations organizations, such as UNESCO, UNEP and IUCN. The coalition could work to convince leadership and public of both North and South Korea to support the building of a permanent, protected area occupying the DMZ corridor and the adjacent civilian control areas for conservation, thus leading to peace and security.

I think he spoke for many of us in Division 48. I hope that those of us whose dedication and expertise would be most useful in this effort will avail themselves of a wonderful opportunity to unite our mission with their efforts.

Their URL is http://www.dmzforum.org.

Anyone interested in working with me and the Forum, please write me at tobach@amnh.org. Students very welcome.

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The program committee is also pleased to announce five invited symposia, discussion, or workshops:

- Reconciliation in Changing Times: Challenges and Possibilities
- Many Faces of Racism: Beginning the Healing Process
- Reducing Media Violence Impact on Families and Young Children
- Careers in Peace Psychology
- Human Rights, Torture, and Professional Responsibility

Lastly, the Division has three invited addresses at the 2006 convention. Daniel L. Shapiro, Ph.D., recipient of the Early Career Award, will be discussing “Reducing Large-Scale Violence: Psychological Challenges and Strategies.” Mohammed Abu-Nimer, Ph.D., recipient of the Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award, will be presenting “Religion and Peace: Islamic Sources of Peace.” Linda M. Woolf, Ph.D., will be giving her presidential address on the topic of “Human Rights and Psychology: An Agenda for the 21st Century.”
Globally, various forms of sanctioned violence (e.g., war, capital punishment) are rife; however, there have been few cross-national empirical studies on the views of lay people about issues such as the rights of governments to invade other countries, torture suspected terrorists, administer capital punishment, violate human rights treaties, and suppress dissent. We know even less about the views of lay people around the world concerning such revolutionary ideas as a “right to peace.”

Do lay people from countries that have recently engaged in armed conflicts use similar or different arguments to justify their own nation’s involvement with the other in the conflict? Do individuals from countries subjected to foreign rule since World War II differ in their view concerning the extent to which it is okay to break international human rights treaties? To what extent do lay people believe that all individuals have an inherent right to peace and that children have a right to grow up in a world of peace? To what extent do judgments concerning institutional violence vary as a function of such variables as exposure to invasion, level of poverty, and income inequality in the countries in which the respondents live or grew up? What kinds of emotions do lay people report when faced with instances of their own country’s aggression? Another country’s aggression? To what extent do people feel motivated and able to take some sort of action in the face of governmental violence? These are some of the questions that members of our international research group have begun to address.

There is a good deal of scattered evidence—much of it from rating scales, case studies, or official governmental or NGO statistics, and much of it focusing on specific wars—addressing many of these questions separately and in selected countries. However, we believe that there has been insufficient work focusing on lay people’s cognitions, emotions, and motivations concerning peace, war, and other forms of institutional violence, and insufficient work linking those cognitions, emotions, and motivations to a well-developed ecological framework, in a broad range of countries. Psychology is a relative newcomer to the field of war and peace, and as noted by Moerk (2002), can complement perspectives from other disciplines such as history and political science with its focus on psychological principles (e.g., the revenge motive). Seeking information on the cognitions, emotions, and motivations of lay people from around the world is an important contribution to the psychology of peace because, as Adams and Mayór (2000), pointed out, “We must address the cultural roots of war and violence and transform our values, attitudes and everyday behaviours into those of a new culture, a culture in which power is based on reason and dialogue, not on violence, whether overt or structural. This is a transformation that requires the involvement of every person, every family, every teacher and every institution in the world” (p. 4; emphasis added).

In recent years, our research team—many of whose members contributed chapters to the book *International Perspectives on Family Violence and Abuse* (Malley-Morrison, 2004)—has launched a major new research effort addressing international perspectives on war, other forms of institutional violence, and peace. Our current project, like the earlier one, is grounded in a cognitive-ecological model of perspectives on violence.

According to this model, perspectives on violence, which are important contributors to actual violence, are influenced by factors at four levels:

1) The macrosystem or society at large—e.g., the nation’s involvement in internal conflict or external wars, its historical status as colonized or colonizer, its status as developed, developing, or underdeveloped, its treatment of women and children.

2) The exosystem—e.g., the level of violence in the neighborhood, the extent to which the media are controlled by the government, the extent to which religious organizations promote war or peace.

3) The microsystem—e.g., involvement of any family members in military service, the status of women within the family, the amount of violence in the family.

4) The individual—e.g., the person’s gender, age, religion, personal experiences with violence, and implicit theories of politics and morality. Positions on violence or nonviolence at each of these levels (e.g., the government, the pulpit, the family, the individual) can influence positions at all the other levels.

For the past three years, we have been conducting pilot testing of a survey (the Personal and Institutional Rights to Aggression Scale; PAIRTSAS) on judgments concerning the rights of governments to wage war, kill civilians, and torture pris-
Principal findings from analyses of the quantitative scale scores include the following:

1) Participants from a domestic sample (they and their parents were born in the U.S.) scored higher than participants from an international sample (they and their parents were born in countries outside the U.S.) in tolerance for five forms of governmental violence—i.e., violence against citizens by the police and military; capital punishment; invasion of another country; violation of international treaties; and killing innocent civilians in the war on terrorism.

2) Participants from the developed nations scored significantly higher than those from the developing nations on tolerance for police/military violence, invasion, ignoring treaties, and killing civilians (but not on tolerance for capital punishment).

3) Men showed more tolerance for aggression than women on police/military violence, capital punishment, invasion, and ignoring treaties (but not on killing civilians).

4) Participants from oppressed countries (colonized, occupied, or externally governed) scored lower than participants from oppressor countries (colonizer, occupier, invader, or intruder in the governmental affairs of another nation) on tolerance for invasion and the right to kill to fight terrorism. Participants whose mother or father was born in an oppressed country, regardless of personal birth location, scored lower on tolerance for invasion of another country and ignoring treaties than those with parents born in an oppressor country.

Using a deductive qualitative analysis approach (Gilgun, 2005), we have also begun preliminary analyses of the qualitative responses to several open-ended PAIRTAS items. In general, we have first categorized each codeable unit as showing agreement, disagreement, or uncertainty/ambivalence for the specified action. Then we coded responses into subcategories based on the particular arguments used. Preliminary analyses included chi square goodness of fit tests to determine whether some response categories occur more than others, and chi square contingency tests to explore gender differences in response patterns.

Among our preliminary findings from these analyses are the following:

1) There was significantly more agreement than disagreement with individuals’ rights to protest against wars.

2) A significant number of individuals who agreed with the right to protest against war argued that the government granted its citizens such a right.

3) In regard to: “Sometimes a country has the right to ignore international treaties or international human rights agreements,” participants were significantly more likely to justify never ignoring treaties because of a characteristic of these treaties than for any other reason.

4) In comparison to participants who opposed ignoring agreements, individuals tolerating this act were significantly more likely to refer to another nation’s faults.

5) Males were significantly more likely than females to believe that nations have the right to violate or ignore international treaties and human rights agreements.

6) Females scored significantly higher than males on agreement with children's right to peace and in the use of psychological reasoning in support of that right.

7) More males than females agreed that “The United States' involvement in Iraq is a moral activity.” In regard to the item “The United States’ involvement in the Iraq war is a holy war undertaken with God's blessing,” the majority of the participants disagreed, with most of them arguing strongly that God does not condone war and there is nothing holy about this particular war.

8) Finally, rationales favoring war were more common and specific than those against war. Men, Republicans, and Christians showed more support for a nation’s right to wage war than women, Democrats, and agnostics/atheists. Christians were significantly more likely than others to argue that a country has the right to invade in specific circumstances such as World War II, Nazi Germany, and the existence of “weapons of mass destruction.”

As we continue our analyses, we are particularly interested in the extent to which rationales can be categorized for the extent to which they show moral disengagement (Bandura, 1999; Bandura, et al., 2001). Some of our work with both the qualitative and quantitative data will be presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Psychological Association. We welcome inquiries from psychologists and graduate students in other countries who are interested in working with us.

References


Building Nonviolence
Through Buddhist Pathways to Resilience
Kathleen H. Dockett, Ali Rahmaan, and Eder Lemus
University of the District of Columbia

Resilience has been viewed as a precondition for productive nonviolence (Joseph, as cited in MacNair, 2003). Joseph suggests that having a resilient “hardy” personality style may be an essential component that distinguishes peace activists who engage in proactive actions from citizens who do not. Resilience is defined as the capacity for successful adaptation despite challenging or threatening circumstances. Helping people gain a sense of personal control over their lives, helping them become hardy in coping with adversity, helping them experience positive growth and meaning in life as a result of adversity are recognized as foundational steps toward better psychological and physical adjustment (Maddi, 2002), and may be helpful in developing nonviolent activists as well.

As part of a larger study designed to identify factors in Buddhist practice that promote resiliency (Dockett, Rahmaan, Lemus, & Barber, 2005), a purposive sample of 49 experienced Soka Gakkai International (SGI)-USA Buddhists of African American (42%), Caucasian (30%), and Asian (28%) descent in a southeastern region of the United States participated in focus group concept mapping sessions (Trochim, 1989). Participants brainstormed, sorted, and rated statements on how they had personally grown and the Buddhist practices most responsible for their growth.

Six domains of personal growth emerged that were consistent with traits of resilience: self-esteem and self-identity; hardiness; optimism; interconnectedness with others; here-and-now orientation; and quest for meaning in life.

Multidimensional scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis yielded three clusters of factors that represent pathways to resilience. The pathways with their mean ratings of importance in contributing to resilient growth on a 5-point Likert scale were: (1) the basic spiritual practice for self and others (4.26–4.36); (2) understanding and living key Buddhist teachings (3.58–3.87); and (3) the availability of organizational support and role opportunities (3.25–3.70).

The spiritual practices viewed as most fundamental in contributing to resilient growth consisted of chanting Nam Myoho Renge Kyo, striving simultaneously to attain enlightenment for self and others, taking personal responsibility for one’s life, believing in the equality and dignity of all life, determining to create value from everything, and studying Buddhist philosophy, among others.

The Buddhist philosophy of life is a teaching of deep commitment to compassionate altruism and nonviolence, self-responsibility, personal control of one’s destiny, and a view of challenge as essential opportunities to uncover one’s potential. In keeping with this, the Buddhist teachings rated as most important in fostering resiliency were consistent with the control, commitment, and challenge components of the hardness construct.

CONTROL: Understanding the universal law of causality and karma, understanding the oneness of self and environment, and understanding that genuine happiness lies within (thus to never seek the causes and solutions to one’s problems outside oneself), all teach an internal locus of control and self-responsibility for one’s life.

COMMITMENT: Commitment to the great compassionate vow of the Bodhisattva to alleviate the suffering of others, to practice altruism and nonviolence, and simultaneously to pursue one’s own enlightenment.

CHALLENGE: Transforming “poison into medicine” reflects the “challenge” orientation of the hardy personality style—the notion of using adversity to grow, strengthen, and gain new insights and skills (i.e., thriving).

The SGI-USA organizational life was viewed as providing caring, supportive relationships, which afford emotional support that is known to buffer the effects of adverse events (Cohen & Wills, 1985). It also offered social integration into a large support network with opportunities to enter meaningful roles and receive daily doses of positive feedback. These social ties are key factors in managing adversity (Cohen & Wills, 1985). In addition, religious settings that promote higher levels of social support, adaptive coping skills, and meaningful role involvement have been found to be more effective in buffering the detrimental impact of stressful life events (Maton, 1989).

This study found that Buddhist practices, teachings, and organizational processes foster the development of personality resilience and hardiness. As a social movement for world peace, the Soka Gakkai International-USA Buddhist practices may be contributing to the development of nonviolent activists as well. In discussing “components of pacifism,” Elliott (as cited in MacNair, 2003) proposed that having an active orientation (being willing to act) and an internal locus of control (being able to act) are indispensable, together with a commitment to nonviolence, in producing pacifists of the kind Gandhi described.

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Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), shares the Norwegian Nobel Committee’s belief that the threat of nuclear arms must be met through the “broadest possible international cooperation.” (http://www.nobelprize.org/peace/) In accepting the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize, jointly awarded to the IAEA and its Director General, ElBaradei commented, “The award also shows the will of humanity to address challenges and to seize the opportunity for a better life for future generations.”

On October 7, 2005, it was announced that the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize would be shared equally between the International Atomic Energy Agency and Mohamed ElBaradei. The organization and its director are committed to the prevention of nuclear energy for militaristic purposes and to ensuring that nuclear energy is used safely for peaceful purposes. During a meeting, one week after the Nobel Committee’s announcement, the IAEA’s 35-member Board of Governors approved Dr. ElBaradei to establish a fund for the organization’s portion of the 1.07 million Euro award. This fund will be used to finance the peaceful application of nuclear energy in developing countries.

The IAEA, according to the Norwegian Nobel Committee, sees to it that nuclear energy is not misused for military purposes, and their efforts are of “incalculable importance” at a time when the spread of nuclear arms to states and terrorist groups is an active threat. Furthermore, Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei has been a strong advocate of new measures to fortify the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

Set up as the “Atoms for Peace” organization, a part of the United Nations Family, in 1957, today’s IAEA works with its Member states to promote safe, secure, peaceful nuclear technologies. The work of the Agency circles three main pillars in its mission: Safety and Security; Science and Technology; and Safeguards and Verification. The first pillar helps countries to upgrade nuclear safety and preparation/response plans for emergencies. Mainly, the aim of this pillar is to protect people and the environment from nuclear radiation. The next pillar works toward developing and improving uses of nuclear energy to help in the fight against poverty, disease, environmental pollution and energy shortages in developing countries. The final pillar makes sure that nuclear energy is not being used for military purposes.

Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei was born in Cairo, Egypt on June 17, 1942. After earning a Bachelor’s degree in law from the University of Cairo in 1962, ElBaradei completed a doctorate in international law at New York University’s School of Law in 1974. His experience as Egypt’s diplomat to the UN and his knowledge of international peace and security and international law has helped Dr. ElBaradei in his career path leading toward this Nobel Award. In addition to working with the International Atomic Energy Agency, ElBaradei lectures in various fields, including international law and international organizations, arms control, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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References


Kelly Dougherty and the Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW)

Andrea Jermain

When she joined the Colorado National Guard in 1996, 17-year old Kelly Dougherty couldn’t have imagined herself serving in the war in Iraq, a war she never supported. Dougherty, daughter of a Vietnam veteran, initially signed up to serve as a medic for the medical training and funding to further her studies.

In January 2003, however, her last semester of university was interrupted by the order to report to military police training and a one-hour briefing about the country she and the 220th Military Police Company would be occupying. She and her colleagues were told little about Arab culture, which left much to be misunderstood by American soldiers. Those misunderstandings, coupled with repeatedly lengthened stays and changes in missions, says Dougherty, lead to violence and hatred.

What Dougherty witnessed during her ten months in Iraq was the abuse of the Iraqi people by American soldiers, no improvement, or worsening, in poverty, and orphaned children. While policing Iraq’s cities and roads, Dougherty’s company used “less than lethal” ammunitions like bean bags, rubber bullets and smoke grenades, often misused in random, and potentially lethal, drive-by shootings of Iraqi adults and children. Once, while visiting an orphanage to donate items meant for soldiers, Dougherty realized that no support was coming from the American government, and that most of the children there were probably orphaned because of bombings and parents being killed at checkpoints. With no interpreters until her last month of service, Dougherty witnessed many Iraqi people being killed, or arrested and held for months at a time without questioning, simply because no one knew what was going on. These injustices were and are a constant presence during the occupation of Iraq.

Dougherty’s eight-year contract was finally up in 2004, after nearly a year in Iraq. Dougherty then realized the recklessness of the administration, the weakness of its foreign policy, and how little it cared for its soldiers and the Iraqi people. With this, and her personal experiences in mind, Dougherty decided to leave the military and was honorably discharged. A few months later, Dougherty attended a Veterans for Peace Conference. There, she spoke with five Iraq veterans about their experiences, and the six soon announced the formation of Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW). Within a year, membership reached 150, with support continuously expanding. Dougherty and the IVAW work tirelessly to inform Americans about the war and the politics behind it. “I think it is a great disservice to the U.S. and its citizens to blindly support a war without thinking about the human costs for the U.S. citizens and the people of Iraq.”

“...I think it is a great disservice to the U.S. and its citizens to blindly support a war without thinking about the human costs for the U.S. citizens and the people of Iraq.”

Kelly Dougherty speaking at Camp Casey.

Photo: Mike Coletta
Representatives of DSJ divisions continue to increase their contributions to APA’s work on peace and social justice issues, both within and outside the APA Council of Representatives.

The work of DSJ Council Representatives

Following the Council meeting, Neil Altman and other Council members summarized the work of DSJ Council Representatives during the February Council meeting. I’d like to underscore the collaborative way in which DSJ representatives worked, how hard they worked, as well as what was accomplished in so short a time. Although not the traditional format for a newsletter article, I hope the following narrative provides a vivid account.

Prior to the Council meeting, Neil represented other DSJ representatives and met with Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter (Chair, Ethics Committee) and Steve Behnke (Director, APA Ethics Office) who had requested a meeting with DSJ representatives prior to their planned Report on the Implementation of Council’s actions regarding the PENS Report. During this meeting, Neil Altman expressed his concern about the delay in changing the ethics code in line with Council’s recommendation that when there is a conflict between law or orders and the APA ethics code, psychologists may ethically obey laws, regulations and orders only to the extent that they are consistent with basic human rights.

Immediately following the opening Thursday night session of Council, there were meetings of several caucuses, e.g. Public Interest Caucus, Ethnic Minority Caucus, Women’s Caucus, at which DSJ reps called upon other Council representatives to respond to the Report on the implementation of the PENS Report. Following the caucus meetings, DSJ reps and “friends” then met at 10:00 pm to discuss strategies and begin a list of additional points to be raised about the PENS Report during the Council session.

On Friday, following the Council meeting, DSJ Council Representatives met again to review and edit the list of points. Plans were made for presenting them to Council. Work continued until midnight.

The next morning, as Neil Altman writes:

Fifteen to twenty of us rose (during the Council Meeting) to read this statement, each point read by a different person; I believe this had a powerful effect on the Council members. One military psychologist, along with several other members of Council, rose to say that he was grateful for our work. One member of Council rose to say that we should keep in mind that the mission of the Guantanamo Bay detention center is legally and ethically questionable, reminding us to keep in mind when we consider the role of psychologists there. Some of us from DSJ also submitted a new business item to update the 1985-1986 APA resolutions on torture in the light of the new dilemmas that have arisen with respect to interrogations since 9/11/01.

On Saturday, during lunch, DSJ reps met together with Gwen Keita, Director of the Public Interest Directorate. We discussed a range of issues, including submission of the New Business Item sponsored by Division 48 to update the 1986 Human Rights Resolution, which we needed to submit by the end of the Council.

Prior to the February 2006 Council meeting, Linda Woolf, President of Division 48, had drafted the statement overnight, drawing upon the UN declarations and principles. At the Council Meeting, Jean Chin (Division 35) and Andy Benjamin (Washington) helped Corann Okorodu and me to craft it into the new business item.

By Saturday evening we had printed the New Business Item—a resolution against torture and other cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment and punishment. On Sunday, the DSJ Representatives circulated the New Business Item so that representatives from all divisions and state associations could sign on as co-sponsors. We received about 60 co-sponsor signatures within about 2 hours!

DSJ Convention Program

The DSJ Representatives have planned a major program: Ethical Dilemmas and Issues for Psychologists Dealing with War, Terrorism, Torture, and Coercion. The program involves a symposium, followed by round table discussions. In addition, DSJ has been planning its annual DSJ Social Hour for late Saturday night so that members of all divisions can attend after the division meetings and other socials that occur that evening.

Complete information on the program and social hour will be included in the fall newsletter.
Doris Miller featured as PAC’s Third Pioneer in Peace Psychology

Richard Wagner

DORIS MILLER, long-time peace activist, is featured in the final issue of the 2005 volume of Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology. She is the third “pioneer in peace psychology” cited by Peace and Conflict. The issue contains an autobiographical article derived from an interview conducted by Susan McKay, one of the three organizers of the issue (along with Micheal Roe and Michael Wessells).

The issue also includes statements by Ethel Tobach and Bernice Zahm, longtime friends and colleagues of Doris Miller; Anne Anderson, reflecting on Miller’s many contributions to Psychologists for Social Responsibility; and Milton Schwebel’s essay on “peace activism and courage,” citing Doris Miller as exemplar.

Miller herself contributed an article on the “risks and payoffs of skepticism,” based on a talk she gave to students at Pace University in 1986, illustrating her constant promotion of responsible activism in the cause of peace and social justice. Her paper is as relevant today as it was 18 years ago.

Doris Miller currently resides in Haverford, Pennsylvania, where she continues to march, picket, and cajole for peace. A photograph in Peace and Conflict, taken during a petition drive in neighboring Bryn Mawr, PA, attests to her limitless energy and dedication to the cause of peace.

Woodrow Wilson’s “WHAT IF?”

Caroline Lang

In the twentieth century, many small countries’ affairs were plagued by the meddling hands of superpowers, ostensibly for a greater good. History has repeatedly shown us the error in this course. People of any nation have rarely responded well to a dictatorial presence in their midst or the imposition of a foreign doctrine; instead, they flourish in situations, both political and social, where they are in charge of their own destiny. However, in a post-war period, foreign powers often need to step in to help rebuild or restructure a country. If done with cooperation and understanding, the presence is smooth.

Following the Paris Peace conference of 1919, Woodrow Wilson suggested the U.S., Britain, and France send an information gathering team to the Middle East. The Ottoman Turks’ defeat in WWI liberated many groups of people; the proposed expedition would poll their opinions and desires regarding their post-imperial move towards independence. The region needed a helping hand establishing independent nations since they had been under Ottoman control for centuries; the commission aimed to find out what sort of help they wanted and from whom.

However, neither Britain nor France was interested in participating in the expedition, so the United States alone sent a team. The delegation consisted of Dr. Henry Churchill King, the president of Oberlin College, and Charles R. Crane, a successful American entrepreneur familiar with international business. During the summer of 1919, the two men traveled throughout the Middle East and gained valuable insight about the region’s needs, wants and goals. The existence of the Commission was a visible sign of American commitment to peace and understanding; therefore, the Commission naturally found a strong regional desire for an American mandate.

But because the U.S. did not join the League of Nations, the findings of the Commission were not used to decide how to proceed in the region. Central to the commission was an ability to embrace diversity, a desire to forge strong bonds despite difference, and an acknowledgement of the permanent heterogeneity of the world. It was a move towards peace. But the King-Crane Commission went unnoticed and the U.S.’s commitment to stability in the region too, was swept away in the shuffle.

Middle Eastern countries hoped the United States would bring a new approach to the stagnancy of western imperialism. Because of the King-Crane Commission, inhabitants of the former Turkish Empire fervently believed a different relationship with a foreign power was possible. Woodrow Wilson understood the importance of self-determination in a world reeling from a war of unprecedented scope.

Do we finally have an opportunity to fulfill his ideal for peace in the Middle East, or have we become the new western imperialists?
In a research study about this, an overwhelming majority of people paid more attention to the hypothetical article about coffee when the word “War” was in the headline than when the word “Competition” was used.

I am sure you are all aware of how bad news trumps good news—you have only to watch television or read the front page of any newspaper to note this. I will never forget a phrase I heard when starting in the broadcasting business over 25 years ago—one that defined the nature of the business. On the day of my first appearance on a new show, all havoc broke loose with news of the Iranian hostage-taking crisis. The phrase was, “If it bleeds, it leads.” Of course, important news should lead, but what became evident to me over years of being in the media, was that “happy news” gets no attention or is relegated to back pages or to what’s called the “kicker”—the story at the end of a TV newscast. This at least reflects smart psychology: to leave the audience in a better mood than when they started.

That brings me to the point: it’s time words like “Peace,” “Reconciliation,” and “Conflict Resolution” get more mainstream attention than “War.” Those words are the spirit of this division. Many members are doing important work in these areas that deserves widespread public attention and visibility. Having been asked to serve as the media advisor for the division, I’m glad to use my experience as a journalist to help make that happen. Please let me know about work in progress you feel deserves more media attention, as well as new ideas.

This initiative is consistent with past APA President Ron Levant’s presidential initiative called “Making Psychology a Household Word”—a nice continuation of the mission that some of us started in the 1980s when we founded the Division of Media Psychology with our slogan to “Give Psychology Away.”

Your ideas about this are extremely welcome. One example of a type of story is my own column for the New York Daily News (see http://www.nydailynews.com/city_life/advice/drjudy/).

This particular story is about dialoguing efforts to resolve conflict between Arabs and Jews—one of the topics covered in the book I am currently editing on resolving conflict between the Palestinians and Israelis from a psychosocial point of view. Another is in the works about psychosocial efforts after the tsunami disaster. Do contact me about your work in these areas.

Convention is soon upon us—in New Orleans. Having recently been to the region and in ongoing contact with people there (the lieutenant governor pledged his support for projects we might do), it is evident to me that the efforts, energy and spirit of Division 48 members could be immensely useful for recovery efforts. One project being considered to tie into the convention involves several elements, which follow guidelines of the APA Board of Convention Affairs: teaming up with a local organization for a community service project that would provide a psycho-educational program for teachers in a local school (a “train the trainers” model) and include a fund-raiser held at a local organization’s premises, with money to go to recovery efforts. Membership chair Joan Gildemeister has made valuable contacts in New Orleans to realize this project. We heartily welcome your ideas, participation, and support of this, or any other project for convention, to contribute to the relief efforts, and to give peace, conflict resolution, reconciliation and recovery away. Contact Joan at Jgildemeister@cs.com or me at DrJudyK@aol.com.
In February, 2006, Division 48 endorsed a letter originated by Division 9 (SPSSI) to the APA Monitor and intended for broader distribution. It responded to APA President Gerald Koocher. Reflecting upon the Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo torture scandals, the letter expressed concern over the inadequacy of the stance taken so far regarding the use of psychological knowledge and psychologists’ participation in coercive interrogations. I would like to share a bit of background on the use of psychology in torture.

**Torture, as Policy**, has been used by occupying military forces throughout history. It is designed for two purposes. The first is to create great fear against being suspected of collaboration with dissident groups. The second is to extract information about the identity and whereabouts of adversaries so they may be found and killed. Unpopular military occupations typically use, promote or condone torture, but the craft has also been promoted by law enforcement and by agencies engaged in intelligence gathering. Physical torture does inspire fear, but its effects are hard to conceal, it provides little information that is reliable, and it sometimes generates retaliation in kind. The modern emphasis has added the systematic use of psychological torture.

Much of the systematic use of psychological knowledge in torture originated in the Soviet Union where authorities considered dissent to be a form of misguided and dangerous thinking. Coercive behavioral techniques were employed to correct the pathology of dissenting ideas. The Gulag was reserved for the incurables.

U.S. torture policy evolved during the 50s when the CIA Technical Services Unit of its Plans Division began adding psychological measures to practices of physical torture already employed. The major psychological and behavioral foundations for this work came from prominent universities with funding often from CIA and other defense-related sources. A series of experiments using LSD, electro-shock, and related disrupters failed to attain the goal of control over people’s minds. Breakthroughs began with studies by Donald Hebb showing how sensory deprivation could, within a short time, produce symptoms of psychological breakdown. Further studies of sensory overload and sensory disorientation produced analogous results. Techniques were developed for attacking human sensory receptors: sight, sound, heat and cold, sense of time. The studies of the effects of sensory disorientation and deprivation at McGill were followed by further research at Harvard, Princeton, Cornell and Yale. Research showed that people could be broken down by what is called “self-inflicted pain.” They are made to stand immobile with arms raised for long periods of time and are told that they are causing it because it can stop as soon as they give in. The physiological consequences are enormous and involve stress on kidneys, swelling and oozing lesions, and hallucinations. Subjects experience a great deal of pain that augments the psychic effects of sensory disorientation.

To this, psychology and related disciplines have added the concept of fitting the type of cruelty to the particular belief systems of individuals and of their cultures. One group of studies involved the secret photographing of people in brothels to use as threats to induce cooperation with interrogators.

The pictures from AbuGrahib depicted individuals who were hooded, standing, and with arms coercively outstretched by wires. Some had been shackled, blindfolded, and isolated in small cubicles. This reflected the psychological contributions of both sensory disorientation and self-induced pain. The forced nudity, telling prisoners that they were being doused with menstrual blood, and the abuse of the Koran reflected the knowledge of gearing the psychological torture to the cultural vulnerabilities of the victims.

Finally, the well-known Milgram experiments showed the government that it is easy to find ordinary people to administer such abuse if one controls the external circumstances. The patterns at Abu Grahib suggest more than creative sadism of a few cruel soldiers. They reflect the work of our profession. In fact, the guidance of practices by actual behavioral science professionals, the BSCT (biscuit: Behavioral Science Consultation Teams) has been documented. When General Miller was sent from Guantanamo to Abu Ghraib, he brought his techniques of abusive interrogation with him. He brought a CD and a manual of techniques and gave them to military intelligence officers and to General Ricardo Sanchez, the U.S. commander in Iraq.

The use of such practices appears in agency manuals and has been a long-term part of U.S. policy. The material is included in manuals used by the School of the Americas in its training of Latin American military leaders. It has long been available in the CIA KUBARK Counterintelligence Manual. When the U.S. signed the UN Anti-Torture Convention, the version sent to Congress for ratification in 1994 removed any restraints on “mental” torture. The U.S. government provides false rationalizations for military actions, acts secretly to intervene in foreign elections, engages in covert manipulations to overthrow popular governments and finds it useful to instill fear by torture. That such practices are denied or condoned by government officials does not alter the ethical responsibilities of psychologists to use their knowledge in ways that do not harm human beings. Grants for research on such methods, fees for consultation, and claims that we just did not know how our psychology was being used, do not excuse the practices. The U.S. may be torturing people, but APA must not grant legitimacy to the practice by refusing to hold its members accountable. In addition to accounts from Amnesty International, Hu
QUESTIONNAIRE REVEALS CONCERNS OF MEMBERS

Joan Gildemeister, Recruitment, Retention and Public Relations Chair

The Division questionnaire was sent out last fall to obtain your visions and suggestions about how Peace Psychology can meet the expectations and goals of its members. This was the product of a committee and gave everyone a chance to give an opinion about what the division should be doing that it is not doing.

The questionnaire gave our members an opportunity to inform the committees about missing publications and also indicate interests of concern and activism in the community and the larger national and international settings. The collective effort is impressive, including those who are no longer at the ramparts but continue to be influential shapers of opinion. New members, on the other hand, need to be introduced to the various modes of interaction and cooperation open to them.

Eighty members took the time to indicate their length of membership, areas of interest, and concerns, giving information about their work in and study of the processes of peace and conflict resolution. About a third of the respondents were members of over 10 years’ standing, a third between 2-10, and a third were new members, the majority students. Their record of achievement is truly impressive. International peace is the area that is shared across generations and length of membership.

Many great ideas came back to us, and work is proceeding on a task force on Human Rights as a consequence of the input of two members with a strong scholarly interest in the topic willing to put together a proposal. The next questionnaire may deal with such questions as your satisfaction with division publications and activities, and will invite members’ views on how to disseminate psychological knowledge more effectively. The knotty problems of reduction of destructive conflict and the weight of professional ethics and international codes of conduct in armed conflict provide a challenge for us all. The questionnaire also netted many resources for the division, including a public relations consultant, Judy Kuriansky, a leader in media psychology who brings experience in research and with projects that are congruent with the goals of Peace Psychology.

The questionnaire is a work in progress. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome. I will need to have them by September 15 to include them in the next APA mailing to our complete membership. Please contact me at jgildemeister@cs.com.

TORTURE

(continued from page 14)

man Rights Watch, The Impunity Project, and School of the Americas Watch, there are three important and eye-opening books providing information about torture as part of U.S. policy.

A Question of Torture: CIA Interrogation, from the Cold War to the War on Terror (hardcover), by Alfred McCoy 2005.


Marc Pilisuk is professor emeritus of the University of California, and professor with the Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center. He is a member of the steering committee of Psychologists for Social Responsibility and a past president of Division 48. He can be contacted at: mpilisuk@saybrook.edu.

The 11th International Conference on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma: Working Together to End Abuse

September 16 – September 19
San Diego, CA
Co-hosted by the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma

For more information, see: http://IVAT.alliant.edu
PEACE IS POSSIBLE

On the right-hand side page you will find a Peace is Possible poster ☞

Please use it in any, and every, way you can.

- Post it somewhere.
- Photocopy and post several.
- Photocopy it enlarged and post.
- Hand out as flyers.
- Photocopy reduced on cardstock.
- Use as postcards...

Use whatever creative way you can to get the word out that peace is possible, and that our Division is a resource.

Intrigued by words for “peace” in other languages? There are more where these came from. See http://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/pace/ for translations into more than 300 languages, out of about 5,000 languages spoken in the world.

2006 Peace Psychology Early Career Award
Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence (Division 48)
American Psychological Association

Purpose and Eligibility
The Early Career Award recognizes scholars in peace psychology who have made substantial contributions to the mission of the society, which is “the development of sustainable societies through the prevention of destructive conflict and violence, the amelioration of its consequences, the empowerment of individuals, and the building of cultures of peace and global community.” Nominees should have made their contributions within five years of receiving a graduate degree and need not be members of Division 48.

Award
The recipient will receive $500 and recognition at the awards banquet at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association. Recipients are also invited to give an address at the convention.

Criteria for Selection
Scholarship (quantity and quality of publications) and activism (breadth and impact of teaching, training, fieldwork, policy work, etc.), are primary considerations. Generally, the scholar/activist model is most desirable but in exceptional cases, the recipient may emphasize scholarship or activism.

How to Apply
Self-nominations are welcome. In addition, senior scholars are encouraged to identify nominees who meet the criteria for the award. The nominee should arrange to have the following submitted:

1. A cover letter outlining relevant accomplishments to date
2. Selected copies of most significant and relevant publications or other evidence of scholarship
3. A current curriculum vitae
4. Two letters of support

Review Committee
Members of the Early Career Award Review Committee consist of Dan Christie, Eric Green, Kathleen Kostelny, and Susan Opotow. The entire packet can be sent to Dan Christie, Chair of the Peace Psychology Early Career Award Committee, preferably electronically at christie.1@osu.edu or via post to:

Dan Christie  
Department of Psychology  
257 Morrill Hall  
Ohio State University  
Marion, Ohio 43302

Deadline
Applications must be received by June 1, 2006. The recipient of the award will be announced by July 1, 2006.
You can say “peace” in any language, Afrikaans to Zulu...

In Cheyenne or Manx, whether you say Fandriampahalemana or Goom-jigi, it all means the same...Peace!

peace is possible
think it. plan it. do it.

For information, or to join the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence: Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association, log onto www.peacepsych.org
From 9/11 to Katrina: Has there been an evolution in political preferences?

Matthew S. Motyl and William A. DeLamarter

Recent decades have shown a marked increase in women holding prestigious positions in fields such as medicine, law, and the academy (Eagly, 2003). However, national political offices still lack a significant female presence despite the strides made by the feminist movement to bring equality to the American political machine. Women compose a meager 13 percent of the United States’ Senate and 14 percent of the House of Representatives (Carli & Eagly, 2001). Furthermore, no woman has ever run for president of the United States and only one has been a vice-presidential candidate. Although 65.5 percent of women are registered voters and show up to the polls more often than men, female politicians continue to lose elections.

Following the terrorist attacks of 9/11, women lost a great deal of political momentum, and this has magnified their struggle to attain positions of political power (Hill, 2002). Terror management theory (TMT) may provide a plausible explanation for the recent faltering success rates of women in politics, especially when considering the implications of that model in the psychology of gender roles.

Greenberg, Pyszczynski, and Solomon (1990) suggest that human beings have an innate desire for self-preservation and will, therefore, experience fear when their survival is threatened. Death is both inevitable and uncertain, a combination that provokes a great deal of insecurity. No individual is able to predict the time, the place, nor the means by which one’s quest for self-preservation will end, whether it is accidental, by disease, old age, or the rare event of a Boeing 757 crashing through his or her workplace window. This heightened state of awareness may lead to a chronic form of anxiety, which, if not buffered, can lead to paralyzing existential, psychological terror (Becker, 1973).

Thus, TMT theorists suggest the existence of a dual-process system that shields humans from dealing with this perpetual fear of death (Jonas & Greenberg, 2004). The protective effect of this system involves interplay between one’s cultural worldview and his or her self-esteem. The cultural worldview provides meaning for human beings by answering cosmological questions such as: “How did I get here?” “How should I live my life?” and “What happens after I die?” Self-esteem is the individual’s belief about how well he or she is living according to the prescriptions of a particular worldview.

The attacks of 9/11 and the resulting media coverage overwhelmed United States’ citizens with pervasive thoughts of death, which were then manifested in political behavior. President George W. Bush managed to significantly increase his ratings from 50 percent on September 9th (Berke & Sanger, 2001) to 90 percent on September 13th (Morin & Deane, 2001) by strongly advocating a conservative Republican worldview that provided comfort to the electorate by emphasizing a singular group identity (Landau et al., 2004).

Landau et al. (2004) compared the president’s message with that of Senator John Kerry, who presented a more liberal worldview emphasizing less in-group solidarity and greater pluralism. Under normal conditions, the Senator was rated more favorably than the President. However, when participants were primed by thoughts of death, their preference shifted drastically in favor of President Bush and his conservative worldview.

The current study was conducted to assess the effects of death-related thought on evaluations of political candidates as a function of the candidates’ sex and gender role (as described in a profile provided to the participants). Using TMT, it was hypothesized that people would show a preference for gender role consistent candidates. Following a death-related thought induction, the 147 participants read a national security position statement that was presented either in a “masculine” or “feminine” manner and was paired with a male or female photograph. Participants then evaluated each candidate on a scale, designed by the researcher, assessing aspects such as competency, likeableness and effectiveness in national security policies. The results obtained were mixed. When induced with death-related thought, participants preferred “feminine” candidates to “masculine” candidates in almost every evaluative measure. Feminine candidates were well liked and perceived as more competent senators overall, while male leadership was only perceived to be effective for military action. Unexpectedly, the sex of the candidates produced no significant effects. However, in support of TMT, a sample of liberal participants strongly endorsed the female candidates that they perceived to be more liberal and rejected the more stereotypic masculine positions and interpreted them as being too conservative and thus, ineffective.

Years after 9/11, the American public endured an additional reminder of their own mortality—the devastation brought by Hurricane Katrina, the costliest and deadliest storm since 1928 (Comte, 2006). It reminded many Americans of their inevitable mortality. Instead of favoring aggressive masculine leadership, voters may have found refuge in the nurturing qualities embedded in stereotypically feminine positions.

Recently, the “masculine” approach to the war in Iraq has been subject to a great deal of criticism. The population’s desire for aggressive leadership is in decline, possibly due to continued sectarian violence in Iraq and the increasing number

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Statements of Candidates for the Position of President of Division 48

James M. Statman, Ph.D.

I am truly honored to be nominated for the Presidency of Division 48 and approach the prospect of serving with great excitement, humility and, I must admit, some trepidation. For in these times when those working for peace, equity and positive social change can easily feel discouraged, it becomes ever more important to assert the mandate of our Division in our teaching, research, practice, interaction with colleagues, within the APA, through activism and in our daily lives: to present a realistic vision of a more just and peaceful world, backed by sound practice and solid psychological research.

I believe that it is our shared challenge to move peace psychology from the academic and organizational margins into the center of academic and professional discourse. As president of Division 48 I would work with divisional colleagues and reach out to many new ones, particularly graduate students and early career psychologists, minorities and international members, to strengthen, diversify and build the Division, to give us greater presence and voice within the APA and to link with the many individuals and institutions that comprise our growing field of peace psychology. I will work to ensure that Division 48 is an open and welcoming place, a stimulating, vibrant, active, collaborative center for promoting peace psychology. We have much to do. To move our field forward we must begin to document and share best practice, to identify the skills, knowledge and competencies that constitute effective peace psychology, and to encourage and mentor rigorous, creative research into key issues such as state violence, socio-economic inequity, militarism, fundamentalism and terrorism. And we must bring our expertise, our constructs and methodologies into the world where they can be tested, refined and utilized.

For the past 35 years I have been working domestically and internationally (primarily in Africa) as an applied social/political psychologist. Most of this has been in chaotic and impoverished contexts: grassroots projects for youth; community development; institutional transformation; and local capacity building and empowerment projects, with a focus on underserved, marginalized and violent populations. I have recently completed working in Nigeria and South Africa to assist chronically unemployed former guerrilla fighters and other ex-combatants access the psycho-social support, life-skills and career training they need to successfully enter civilian life and am currently working in Guyana using Appreciative Inquiry and conflict management methods to help address mounting ethno-political violence. My professional writing has focused on case studies that seek to describe and understand the personal and social dynamics of political conflict and change and particularly to elucidate and give voice to hidden dimensions of resistance to domination.

Since returning from South Africa in 2000 Division 48 has been my home base through which I have been able to meet and work with colleagues, present academic and applied work, and contribute, twice as program chair and as liaison to Division 45. Should I be elected President I will happily and energetically devote myself to doing all I can to help the Division continue to prosper and grow.

Deborah Fish Ragin, Ph.D.

When I joined Division 48 I did not know that I would have the great fortune of working with very committed and dedicated individuals who share a vision of peace and social justice among peoples and between nations. Division 48 is my “home” within APA where I can work with others on initiatives to advance the Division’s mission. I would welcome the opportunity to take a greater leadership role in Peace Psychology.

My interest in peace psychology reflects my personal and professional interest in ethnic conflicts and peace. When I joined Division 48 almost seven years ago, I was conducting research and counseling women and children exposed to domestic violence. I was reminded that while many enjoy or take for granted a home free of violence, a small but growing segment of society is not as fortunate. Domestic violence affects individuals, families and communities. I was reminded of the global scope of domestic violence when I gave a keynote address on the intergenerational impact of domestic violence at a conference in Pretoria, South Africa. Knowing the importance of this issue, I was pleased to find that Division 48 included domestic violence in its mission.

As a member of Division 48, I expanded my work in peace psychology when I became one of six APA Representatives to the UN. I was proud to represent both APA and Division 48 on international issues pertaining to violence, injustice and health disparities affecting peoples of all nations. My role as an APA representative helped me to understand the enormity of the task we confront as peace psychologists, and to collaborate with other non-governmental organizations (NGOs), UN member states, and Ambassadors to address the needs and rights of people, including the right to live in peace. Through papers, panel discussions and workshops presented at APA conferences, I helped highlight the role of peace psychologists in international and national conflicts.

As a Co-Chair of the Division’s Ethnicity and Peace Working Group, I was pleased to be part of efforts to further discussions and understanding about the complex nature of ethnicity and peace both at home and abroad. Currently, I serve as the Division’s representative to a newly formed APA Task Force on Diversity.

I believe that the mission of our Division “to promote peace in the world at large, within nations, in communities and families,” positions us to provide leadership and expertise on issues of peace and
social justice. Members of our Division have provided outstanding examples of leadership as peace psychologists through their work on international events and crises. Some of the current conflicts between ethnic, religious and political groups remind us of the seamless connection between international and national interests. And for that reason, in part, we need to balance our work by increasing our attention to domestic issues of peace and social justice. I would welcome the opportunity to use my past seven years of experience to promote the goal of peace and social justice shared by members of our Division.

Statements of Candidates for the Position of Member-at-Large of Division 48

Julie Levitt, Ph.D.

I am a clinical psychologist who has worked extensively in the area of peace building, believing that the practice of psychology includes participation in many levels of society.

My involvement as a peace psychologist has included political and community volunteerism with non-profit organizations promoting social justice. I organize programs to inform about local and national policy, serve on the boards of community action organizations, and currently work on violence prevention by collaborating with several organizations to develop legislative initiatives and educational programs.

My election twice to the National Steering Committee of Psychologists for Social Responsibility has increased my investment in peace psychology. Four years ago I sought a project that would further the field of international humanitarian assistance. That resulted in PsySR conferences in 2002 and 2003, which brought together 50-60 researchers, administrators, and clinicians from governmental and non-governmental agencies, including foreign program directors. We explored assumptions and field practices in order to develop guidelines for intervention and to identify areas for further investigation. How to engage participants and maintain momentum among participants also was studied. In August 2005 I co-chaired a PsySR program for field workers based on the findings of our conferences.

My research areas include study of survivors of trauma, particularly those who suffered during the Holocaust, with focus on resilience.

As a 48 MAL completing her first term, I have used my systems skills to assess group interaction and suggest approaches that would increase member involvement and diversity. I developed outreach materials and programming that incorporated diverse perspectives and a wide range of applications. Now I serve on the Society's Diversity Task Force, formed this year to explore the meaning of difference within the Society and how best to meet the needs of members and create an environment of and model for inclusion. I would like to complete this initiative while on the Executive Committee.

My work as a 48- Executive Committee Member, clinician, clinical researcher, peace activist, and community advocate, qualifies me for a second term as MAL. I would be most honored to serve.

Petra Hesse, Ph.D.

I have been a member of Division 48 since its inception. I have presented my work at many APA conventions, and served a term as Secretary-Treasurer from 1993-1996. Currently, I am one of the co-chairs of the Task Force on Children, Families and War.

I hold advanced degrees in child development (Ph.D., Harvard University, 1985) and international relations (M.A.L.D., Tufts University, 1985), and have been trying to integrate my educational backgrounds and training ever since graduate school. I have written about children’s fears of nuclear war, about children’s and adolescents’ enemy images in different cultures, about German adolescents before and after reunification, and about children’s reactions to 9/11. I also produced a videotape and wrote several articles and book chapters about political messages on children’s television. I have been teaching courses on children’s political socialization, and am developing a certificate program on working with children and families internationally, for teachers and other human service professionals in training. My current work is about teacher training in political socialization and political education.

I have presented my work both nationally and internationally at conferences of the International Society of Political Psychology, the American Psychological Association, the Society for Research on Child Development, the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Alliance for a Media Literate America. I have published in a variety of European and American publications: Psychosocial, Telemedium, International Journal of Mental Health, Young Children, and Contemporary Psychological Review.

As member-at-large, I would continue to contribute actively to Division 48. I would be interested in building alliances and partnerships with sister organizations (e.g. the International Society of Political Psychology) and organizations with compatible missions and projects (e.g. the World Organization of Early Childhood Education and the National Association for the Education of Young Children). Of course, I would also be open to developing other projects with members of Division 48.
Trends in Homelessness, Health, Hunger, & Dropout Data Suggest a “Society at Risk”

Neil Wollman

We in the United States consider ourselves to be a generous people, and in many ways we are. Yet hunger, homelessness and inadequate health care continue to increase in our nation, while a worrisome school dropout rate has shown little improvement in recent years.

- Emergency food requests increased 14.4 percent from 2003 to 2004, with 38.2 million people (or 13.2 percent of the population) living in households experiencing “food insecurity.”

- In 2004, 81 percent of major cities turned people away from shelters because they were filled to capacity, while families with children comprised 35-40 percent of the U.S. homeless population, depending on which survey’s results are used.

- In that same year, 45.8 million people were without health insurance.

- The improvement in dropout rate is jeopardized by the Administration’s FY 2006 request for the “No Child Left Behind” Act. It is $12 billion below the amount needed to fully fund it, including cutting funds for programs to reduce the number of high school dropouts.

Researchers and the media have looked at these factors individually. But by examining them together, we can see whether our society responds adequately to the needs of its citizens, particularly those who are most vulnerable. As the lead researcher, I think that such findings are part of a longer term dramatic and continuing deterioration for those most at risk in our society. And unless new forces come into play, the overall picture cannot be expected to improve in the foreseeable future. With financial demands for Katrina and permanent tax cuts domestically, and for Iraq and Afghanistan abroad, the plight of the poor will surely worsen further. Given the basic nature of these long unfulfilled needs—and the fact that all other industrialized countries provide in these areas—we may need to look more closely at ourselves and our self-image of being a compassionate people.

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

The reality of the genocidal policies under the regime of Sudanese dictator Omar al-Bashir:

- Over 400,000 men, women and children dead
- Mass rape as a form of genocide is common
- Over 2 million displaced persons
- Genocide spilling over into neighboring country of Chad

What you can do:

- Contact the media informing them of your concern and if appropriate, offer your expertise related to the causes and consequences of genocide.

- Contact your governmental officials.

- Organize and support programming in your area (e.g., at your university, religious organization, community centers) concerning the realities of genocide in Darfur.

- Support relief efforts.

Download a Darfur resource kit from the Committee on Conscience at:
OUR WINTER MEETING this year began the evening of January 19 with an emotionally moving reception at American University for Mohammed Abu-Nimer, Ph.D., the recipient of the Society’s annual Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award. Since 1997, Dr. Abu-Nimer has been on the faculty of the School of International Service (SIS) at American University where he concentrates on the theory and practice of international peace and conflict resolution. At the award ceremony, he spoke eloquently and with humility about the development of his career as a trainer and interfaith dialogue facilitator who has worked with thousands from widely diverse backgrounds in areas of conflict. The award, given to a practitioner who has made vital contributions to the field of peace and conflict resolution, is one for which Dr. Abu-Nimer is eminently qualified. He was among the first PhD graduates of the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR) at George Mason University, where he defended a pioneering dissertation that evaluated the Arab-Jewish dialogue and other conflict resolution models used in Israel by 15 organizations in the late 1970s into the 1980s. This research was updated in 1999 and published as the first comprehensive book on the conflict resolution models used in Israel. His work to combine theory and application is extensive. Among his recent publications is Peace-building and Nonviolence in Islam: Theory and Practice (2003), the first single-authored book considering these two content areas from a peace and conflict resolution perspective.

ON JANUARY 20TH the Executive Committee met at the APA building for the Winter Divisional Meeting. In attendance were: President Linda Woolf, Anne Anderson (PsySR), Eileen Borris, past-president, Leila Dane, chair, Fellows Committee, Kathleen Dockett, secretary, Joan Gildemeister, membership chair, Dan Mayton, president-elect, Eric Green, student representative, John Gruszkos, treasurer, Julie Levitt and Donna Read, members-at-large, Corann Okorodudu and Judith Van Hoorn, APA Council representatives, Diane Perlman, from the Globalization and Structural Violence and Disarmament Working Group, and Sarah Robertson (PsySR Intern). We worked hard, plowing through an agenda from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Now to themes of the day:

MIKE WESSELLS’ resignation from the APA Presidential Task Force on National Security (PENS) was discussed. Mike Wessells’ concerns about the task force include the absence of any investigative or adjudicating role for the task force and therefore, its inability to consider the events that may have occurred in US detainee prison camps. He maintains that APA has come short of condemning the abuses that have occurred in such camps and that APA needs a bipartisan commission to investigate possible psychologist involvement in the abuses. He also contends that APA must state clearly opposition to and condemnation of harsh methods such as sleep deprivation and harassment and educate policy makers about the profoundly negative effects of harsh, pressuring methods of questioning that are subsumed under cruel, degrading, inhumane treatment. His resignation from the TF was understood and supported by the Executive Committee.

THE THEME CALLING FOR APA LEADERSHIP in matters related to torture and other treatment of detainees in U.S. military prison camps was repeated throughout the meeting. Specifically discussed was the Executive Committee’s call for action in July 2005, that included no torture against prisoners or use of highly coercive interrogation techniques, no mitigating circumstances for psychologists to use torture or be a part of highly coercive interrogation techniques, the investigation of the charges against psychologists at Guantanamo Bay, and the wide circulation of the APA 1986 Resolution concerning human rights and torture. This position is endorsed by the Divisions of Social Justice (DSJ) of which we are a divisional member.

JOHN GRUSZKOS, treasurer, reviewed expenses. He will report separately about the financial status of the Society. There was Committee approval for funds to support the Multi-Cultural Conference and the Divisions for Social Justice (DSJ). As for the work of our Society, this includes maintaining the International Peace Practitioners’ Network (IPPN), which in partnership with Psychologists for Social Responsibility, provides an opportunity for international humanitarian workers to post information about issues, conferences, requests for information, as well as connect one-to-one and converse via a moderated listserv format. In addition, there are two publications, our newsletter and journal, as well as task forces. The Society welcomes monetary contributions from our members to our newly established Division Diversity Task Force, described below, the Multi-Cultural Conference, and the DSJ. Members may send contributions for these worthy causes by writing to John Gruszkos, Ph.D., 7301 Forest Avenue, Suite 201, Richmond, Virginia 23226. Contributions should be made out to the Peace Division, APA.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE strongly supported efforts to get more members involved in ongoing projects and heartily endorsed the idea that we should move in the direction of increased showcasing of how peace psychologists work at various stages of their careers. Defining peace psychology in its broadest sense was emphasized. This includes the possibility of E-publication of resources.

JOHN PAUL SZURA & MIKE WESSELLS are continuing to work on a written history of the Peace Society, a way to help us both remember our roots, goals, and envision our future directions.
CORANN OKORODUDU reported on issues now before APA Council. The active involvement of our two representatives, Corann and Judith Van Hoorn, is important as a way to question policy and provide direction to our APA leadership. Judy commended Corann for her specific initiatives against racism, including stereotyping of any group membership, and torture. The Multicultural Conference in January 2007 will focus on structural violence. Our participation at the conference as presenters and participants of course is important.

EILEEN BORRIS discussed the Division Diversity Task Force, chaired by Eileen and Evie Garcia, that provides an opportunity to study how we can work well together within our division, a complex and difficult task for any group. The TF also will explore ways to encourage participation of a greater number of people coming from different backgrounds with different experiences to join our leadership and our other activities, such as our working groups. Our divisional task force will help with the development of a larger inter-divisional task force that will explore conflict resolution models and develop a handbook addressing how APA divisions can operationalize the resolutions on Enhancing Diversity, presented in May 2005. Congratulations to Evie and Eileen who, with APA divisions 20, 35, 44, and 45, have been awarded a competitive inter-divisional grant to do this work.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the bylaws were discussed and are under possible revision to better meet the needs of our rapidly growing Society.

JOAN Gildermeister has been working on member recruitment. Among several efforts to increase membership, she has devised a questionnaire to explore what new members want from the Division, and is working on outreach and public relations components for us in conjunction with the APA convention in August. Members are encouraged to share their ideas about recruitment and how best to be “user friendly.” Use of email for better communication with division members is in the works.

FROM MY REVIEW OF NOTES from our meeting, it is clear to me that the Peace Society is moving forward in making peace psychology a recognized, important specialty within the profession of psychology. The Society, which celebrates and respects diversity, is working toward a greater incorporation of diversity within our membership and leadership. The Society also is exploring ways of connecting research and practice so that psychologists everywhere can see the place of peace with social justice as a part of their practice. A tall order and a unique position for a division. But it is possible, especially as we dialogue, reach out, and are open to the ideas of others. Ideas are welcome. Please feel free to let us know what you as members think about our proposed directions.

Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award

Leila F. Dane

On January 19, a festive ceremony marking the 4th annual Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution award, sponsored by APA Division 48, the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence, was held in Washington, D.C. at American University, hosted by the Peacebuilding & Development Institute of the School of International Service, where the recipient currently teaches. The awardee, Dr. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, was honored for his outstanding contributions to the integration of theory and practice within the field of conflict resolution. The hall was packed with his admiring students, colleagues, family, and those Division 48 members who were in town for the mid-winter meetings of APA.

Dr. Abu-Nimer is remarkable in several ways other than being fourth in the world to receive this prestigious award, which is open to scholars and practitioners from all walks of life. Born into a Muslim community of Northern Israel, he worked throughout his twenties facilitating community level dialogue among Arabs and Jews before moving to Jerusalem to develop Arab language peace education curricula. The first Intifada (1987) elicited in him such profound feelings that he immigrated to the U.S. and eventually enrolled in the first doctoral level graduating class of George Mason University’s Institute for Conflict Analysis & Resolution, where he presented a pioneering dissertation evaluating the Arab-Jewish dialogue and coexistence models used in 15 organizations in Israel. His continued productivity in training, research, and theory development has won him the admiration of thousands worldwide. For the full text of APA Division 48 President Linda Woolf’s pre-presentation speech, a synopsis of the work of the first three awardees, and criteria for consideration as a nominee for the 5th annual award, go to the Division 48 web site.

“Peace is made with enemies, not with people who are already in agreement. I hope we will someday grasp this opportunity.”

Mohammed Abu-Nimer
REPORTS

Peace and Education Working Group Report

Linden Nelson, Co-Chair

We are continuing efforts to distribute the “Every Child, Every Day” brochure to school board members, administrators, and teachers. The brochure describes benefits of school-based conflict resolution education and related programs. All Division 48 members are encouraged to use the brochure to promote peace education in their local school districts. Brochures may be ordered from the Psychologists for Social Responsibility office by e-mail (psyrr@psyrr.org) or phone (202-543-5347).

We are also distributing to college teachers a package of resources for teaching about peace, conflict, and violence in Introductory Psychology, Social Psychology, and other relevant courses. This includes lecture outlines, class activities, information about useful web sites, textbook recommendations, Power Point outlines on Conflict and on Service Learning Projects, and syllabi for courses on conflict resolution, terrorism, and peace psychology. Please contact me (llnelson@calpoly.edu) to request an e-mail attachment with these materials or to contribute additional resources for this project.

Treasurer’s Report

John Gruszkos

All Division 48 disbursements for 2005 have been finalized and we can note with a guarded smile that we displayed a small budget surplus for the year! The Division actually wound up spending less than had been proposed and allocated, while taking in more income than had been expected. There were a number of factors that contributed to this pleasant state of affairs. Income from member dues was higher than anticipated in 2005, as was income from royalties on publications. Additionally, because of the rise in interest rates and the growth of the economy this past year, income from interest and dividends on Division 48 investments was higher than had been predicted at the beginning of last year. A further contributing factor was that printing and mailing expenses for the newsletter and for membership expenses for August in New Orleans. This is one budget item that was underfunded in 2005, and expenses for the social hours at the convention in Washington were considered higher than anticipated. It now appears that the cost of these items in New Orleans will be even higher, and the new budget has been adjusted accordingly. Additionally, funds have been allocated to allow the Division to be a participating and sponsoring organization in the biannual Multicultural Conference.

The Student and Early Career (SEC) Working Group is trying to respond to a growing need to connect interested students with Division 48 members for career and research mentoring. Many of our student affiliates attend colleges and universities that do not have faculty members who are knowledgeable about peace psychology issues, research, education, training, or careers. Furthermore, there is a growing need in our Division to increase student involvement and retention. Thus we have created a Student-Member Mentoring Program. All members and student affiliates are invited to participate.

Members: For this program to work, we need members who are willing to give some of their time to share their knowledge about peace psychology with interested students. Early career members are especially encouraged to give back some time to up and coming students. You might have on-going research projects that could incorporate new student assistants. You might help a student to design and conduct his or her own study. Maybe you have experience organizing awareness or activist events that could help aspiring students. We will try to match your experience and skills with a student’s interest to help create an appropriate connection. Please visit http://www.ericpgreen.com/d48mentor/memberform.asp to learn more and register.

Student Affiliates: If you are interested in learning more about peace psychology research, careers, or activism, this program might be for you. Please visit http://www.ericpgreen.com/d48mentor/studentform.asp to register and provide us with information about you and your interests. If you indicate that you want to discuss career options in peace psychology, you may call on your mentor periodically to discuss grad school options, first job opportunities, etc. If you indicate that you want a research mentor, you may collaborate with a mentor on a pre-existing project or consult your mentor on research design issues. If you indicate that you want to learn more about activism, you and your mentor may discuss methods for organizing groups and events.

Eric Green, peacepsychology@gmail.com.
2006 APA 2006 Convention in New Orleans

Prior to the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting, there had been considerable discussion on the COR listerv regarding the plans for holding the APA Convention in New Orleans. At the beginning of the Council Meeting, Norman Anderson, APA CEO, presented an overview of APA’s review of convention plans. He noted that a team of APA staff had traveled to New Orleans to make sure that the city could support the requirements of such a large convention in terms of accommodations for lodging and good health support, etc. The team recommended that APA go ahead with its plans.

Dr. Anderson also emphasized that the Board, COR, Divisions and Staff were committed to finding appropriate ways to contribute to the city as well as the larger Gulf area, including Mississippi. Since the meeting, there has been continued discussions about ways to implement ideas among Council representatives on the COR listerv, as well as within and among divisions.

Council Honors Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks & Betty Friedan

At the opening of the Council meeting on Friday, President Koocher asked that we honor Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks and Betty Friedan. Corann Okorodudu, Judy Van Hoon, and Martha Banks (Division 45) honored the life and work of Coretta Scott King, noting her own important contributions to social justice and peace issues, including civil rights, women’s rights, and ending Apartheid in South Africa. Bernice Lott (Division 9) spoke about pioneering contributions of Betty Friedan to the understanding of equal rights and participation for all women. Jerry Koocher ended with celebrating the social justice courage and activism of Rosa Parks, mother of the U.S. civil rights movement.

Report on the Implementation of Council’s Actions Regarding the PENS Report

Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter, chair of the APA Ethics Committee, made a report to Council regarding the PENS Report in which she briefly reiterated the APA’s 1986 position against torture according to which “Psychologists do not engage in, direct, support, facilitate, or offer training in torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment” and that “Psychologists are alert to acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment and have an ethical responsibility to report these acts to appropriate authorities.” Dr. Moorehead-Slaughter indicated that with the dissolution of the PENS Task Force, its recommendation that called for the development of a commentary/casebook to guide psychologists on the appropriate boundaries of their roles in matters of national security had been assumed by the APA Ethics Committee.

Immediately following the Report, representatives from the Divisions for Social Justice spoke as a group, with each representative reading one point from the statement we had prepared. The statement included the following:

The Divisions for Social Justice (made up of ten APA Divisions) met about the PENS Task Force Report. We are pleased with the position taken by this presidential task force that, “psychologists have an ethical responsibility to not engage in, directly support, facilitate, or offer training in torture or other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment.” We are pleased that the APA Ethics Committee was asked to address the ethical challenges faced by psychologists on these matters. We encourage APA to consider how it might play a more proactive role in this critical social justice issue. We would like APA to be clear and unequivocal in its position against torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, and take a leadership role to act in the public interest.

Having asked to make a brief presentation, council members of the Divisions for Social Justice took turns reading each of the following ten suggestions regarding the implementation of Council’s actions regarding the PENS report.

1. We are pleased that the Ethics Committee will prepare the casebook/commentary on the PENS Report. This committee has a diverse membership that represents and interacts with a range of constituencies. This Committee also has substantial experience and broad context for considering ethical issues.

2. Given that public allegations exist regarding psychologists’ involvement in the violation of the human rights of detainees, we ask APA to determine the facts so that the allegations can be refuted or substantiated.

3. Because there has been ambiguity and confusion about specific actions that are alleged to have occurred and the definitions of these practices, we hope that the casebook will identify specific psychological interrogation practices that are coercive, cruel, or degrading.

4. We believe that it would be helpful for APA to draw on international conventions to define “torture,” “torture lite,” “cruel and degrading,” and other concepts that are key to this report.
5. We suggest that APA actively involve the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) in distributing and publicizing relevant United Nations (and other) documents mentioned in APA’s own 1986 and 1987 resolutions on torture.

6. We suggest that the consultative function of the Ethics Committee be utilized to offer consultation to psychologists, and especially those working in or with the military, who face ethical issues related to interrogation and other practices.

7. We suggest that APA provide support for psychologists who refuse to engage in practices that conflict with professional ethics and standards.

8. Dr. Ron Levant, when he was APA president, visited Guantanamo (as mentioned in his past president report on Friday morning). We would appreciate his providing a report on his visit, and especially focus on what he observed about the roles that psychology and psychologists may have been playing in the treatment of detainees there.

9. We suggest that the ethical issues raised by the PENS Report and related discussions be used to inform the training and education of students. That is, we suggest that APA consider developing educational materials for students and professionals.

10. We suggest that APA, in the form of a Task Force or Working Group, take a new look at the 1986 and 1987 resolutions on torture. The resolutions may need revision, or likely updating, in light of almost 20 years of practice and research since the time of these resolutions.

These coordinated statements were then followed by numerous comments by other Council Representatives, many of whom referred to DSJ as a group and most of whom applauded and were supportive of DSJ comments.

Council Resolutions

On the February Council meeting agenda, there were comparatively few resolutions to be discussed and or voted on. Of special note to members of Division 48, Council voted for the representation of four minority psychological associations: American Association of Asian Psychologists, Association of Black Psychologists, Society of Indian Psychologists, and National Latino/a Psychologists Association.

Council adopted the Report of a Task Force on a Resolution on Prejudice and Discrimination in all its Forms. At the August 2005 meeting, Council had adopted a Resolution on Anti-Semitic and Anti-Jewish Prejudice. At the February meeting, Bernice Lott (Division 9), with support from other DSJ representatives, introduced a new business item as an Addendum to this resolution, with the hope that Council would consider the item at the February meeting. Council voted instead to refer this item to review by various committees for consideration at its next meeting in August.

Council had previously discussed proposals that two new divisions be established: the Trauma Psychology Division and the Society of Human-Animal studies.

During the February meeting, Council voted to establish the Trauma Psychology Division. Spokespeople representing the proposed division emphasized that numerous divisions have shown an ongoing focus on issues related to trauma and that the field of trauma psychology is well established and continues to grow. Proponents of this new division are interested in collaborating with other divisions (such as Division 48) on issues and programs of mutual interest.

Council voted not to establish the Society of Human-Animal Studies.

Council Actions Relating to the Public Interest Directorate

Council acted to provide funds for a number of task forces and working groups that relate to the interests of Division 48. Among these were the funds provided for the Multicultural Leadership Workshop; the Task Force on Socioeconomic Status; the Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls; and the Task Force on Gender Identity, Gender Variance and Intersex Conditions.

BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY

The Executive Committee of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence wishes to acknowledge a bequest of $1000 from the estate of Jerome Frank, Ph.D., which has been provided without restriction on use.
The Working Group for Peace and Spirituality begins its ninth year this year and continues to engage and expand its research projects and community work. To this point in time we have documented over 400 inquiries! Some of the broad range of interests that have been part of this Group’s activities include: international research on values that promote peace especially amongst school children ranging in ages from 7 to 17; working within communities with religious leaders to create curricula that address tolerance and understanding between the faiths; research in relation to resiliency (and the prevention of burnout) and the establishment of a reliable measure; participating in conferences of an interdivisional nature and that reach beyond the borders of APA; and working within the group to consolidate efforts on individual projects addressing difficulties that arise therein. Over the previous eight years 45 programs have been generated for APA conventions that have addressed values that promote peace—all of which have received wonderful attendance!

Recent projects that have been at the forefront of the Group’s efforts include: research involving a Peace Inventory in two forms (for children between 7-10 and 11-17 years of age) which explore the impact on values and their role in peacebuilding (on individual and group levels) as well as their impact on coping with trauma. These measures were administered locally (in a Montessori school setting of 80 children) as well as administered nationwide. Recently we have received requests for permission to use the measure internationally and in a greatly expanded number of venues! This past March some members of the Group presented in various programs in San Francisco (at a World QiGong Conference) and in Maryland (at the APA Midwinter Division 36 Conference) spreading the theme of the impact of values on peacebuilding to hundreds of interested international practitioners. Additional work is currently going on in relation to working with religious and community leaders to expose the ideas of building interfaith harmony through the generation of various curricula within the settings of each of the various groups. We are very excited about all this wonderful work. Please know that any and all interested people who have ideas and projects of concern in regard to values and their impact on Peace are welcome. We gladly invite your input into this vital arena of peacebuilding. Please contact Steve Handwerker (peacewk@peacewk.org) 7300 W. Camino Real Ste 229, Boca Raton, FL 33433.

A New Edition of Working for Peace

A new edition of Working for Peace: A Handbook of Practical Psychology and Other Tools, this time edited by Rachel M. MacNair, in collaboration with PsySR, has been published. Several Division 48, and PsySR, members, colleagues, and friends have collaborated to produce this edition. The publishers describe it as: “The most complete guidebook yet to the psychology of social activism. Forty active peace workers—psychologists, social workers, communication specialists and other professionals—offer detailed practical guidance on getting yourself together, maintaining an effective group of volunteers, and getting the word out to the larger community. Thirty-two information-packed chapters include: Cultivating Inner Peace; Overcoming Anger and Anxiety; Overcoming Helplessness and Discouragement; Overcoming Burnout; Motivating Others; Effective Group Meetings and Decision Making; Using Conflict Creatively; Promoting Peaceful Interaction; Nonviolent Communication; Conflict Transformation Skills; From Anger to Peace; Preparing for Nonviolent Confrontations; Effective Media Communication; Techniques of Behavior Change; Humor for Peace.” It is published by Impact and the ISBN is 1-886230-72-2. Congratulations to all involved!
SOLVING THE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS PUZZLE

Joan Gildemeister, Recruitment, Retention and Public Relations Chair

The Society has as its stable base APA members who send in their dues packet at the end of the year for the coming year. There are four categories of members: Associates, Dues Exempt, Fellows, and Members.

This year many APA members and students indicated interest in the Society when they were asked to send in their dues to the national organization. A good percent of these responded to the Society letter inviting them to join by signing up, and many have sent in dues that have not yet been processed. A number have responded to the special introductory year offer of $25 for the 2006 dues. So we are basically in mid-stream in signing up new members who have indicated interest while beginning the reminder to send in dues for 2006. We need your ideas about the scope and quality of the Society’s publications, working group activities and convention programs and will ask you to give us your views in a survey that will be sent after the convention.

Here are the numbers to date, with many renewing and joining up whose applications have not yet been processed:

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<th>APA MEMBERS</th>
<th>2005 (9/30/05)</th>
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| SOCIETY AFFILIATES | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Affiliates         | 59             |
| International Affiliates | 1         |
| New Members        | 43             |
| Renewed Students   | 1              |
| New Students       | 160            |
| Total              | 264            |

| APA & SOCIETY TOTAL | 704 | 511 |

| Dues Exempt | 161 | 160 |

How to interpret the above?

Sign up your students and distribute our brochure to colleagues.

Contact the Recruitment, Retention and Public Relations Chair for a supply of brochures: jgildemeister@cs.com.

SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS, COLLEAGUES & FRIENDS recently published articles of interest in the Journal of Social Issues (Volume 62, Number 1, 2006), edited by Dan J. Christie. The theme for the edition was Post-Cold War Peace Psychology: More Differentiated, Contextualized, and Systemic. Contributions include:

Daniel J. Christie: What is Peace Psychology the Psychology of?

Deborah D. Winter & Mario M. Cava: The Psycho-Ecology of Armed Conflict


Michael B. Greene: Bullying in School: A Plea for Measure of Human Rights

Diane Bretherton & David Mellor: Reconciliation between Aboriginal and Other Australians: The “Stolen Generations”

Miles Hewstone, Ed Cairns, Alberto Voci, Juergen Hamberger & Ulrike Niens: Intergroup Contact, Forgiveness, and Experience of “the Troubles” in Northern Ireland

Michael Wessells & Carlinda Montiero: Psychosocial Assistance for Youth: Toward Reconstruction for Peace in Angola

Cheryl de la Rey & Susan McKay: Peacebuilding as a Gendered Process

Richard V. Wagner: Terrorism: A Peace Psychological Analysis

Cristina Jayme Montiel: Political Psychology of Nonviolent Democratic Transitions in Southeast Asia

Milton Schwebel: Realistic Empathy and Active Nonviolence Confront Political Reality

MARC PILISUK writes that he is in the midst of writing a book on global violence. It is tentatively titled, Caring and Conquest: The Costs and Vulnerabilities of the Warfare State.

He has four (of nine) chapter drafts completed: The Consequences of War; Killing: War and the Minds of Men; The Hidden Structure of Violence; Globalization: the Land and the Narcotics Trade. These chapters are available as attachments for anyone curious about them and of course feedback is more than welcome. Please contact Marc at mpilisuk@saybrook.edu.
IN MEMORIAM

IN 2005 Division 48 lost three members through death. JEROME FRANK, psychologist and psychiatrist, has been memorialized in many publications. We all know of his accomplishments as professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He made the teaching of psychotherapy coherent and emphasized, according to a colleague, that patients are unique in the causes of their problems, though they might be similar in the expression of them. He was among the first physicians to take a stand to oppose the idea of nuclear war and was also active in the civil rights movement. He inspired others and was a mentor to many, including Herb Kelman. By coincidence, this author met his widow, Liza, at an all day conference on outcomes of the therapeutic process. She shared the personal recollections of the Frank daughters: Emily’s: “In all his personal interactions, whether with son’s-in-law, or his children or students, father was explicit in recognizing each person’s qualities, exalting in our accomplishments and celebrating the differences among us.” Julia’s: “[Dad] was completely clear on his own thoughts, yet open and willing to let me formulate and share my own.” An inspiring legacy.

Loss of a Division Fellow is noted in the death of ROBERT NICHOLS. According to Mike Wessells, our archivist, Robert was a former president of Division 19, Military Psychology, and in the early days of Division 48 was very helpful in organizing joint dialogues and events across Divisions 19 and 48. He was a warm and articulate human who cared for peace, and he will be missed.

SEYMOUR LEVY, one of our dues exempt members, also passed away in 2005.

NOEL MARKWELL, who called himself primarily a psychology educator toward the end of his life, died March 22, 2006, at his home in Sarasota, Florida. He was 73 years old. Born and raised in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, Dr. Markwell earned his BA from Lafayette College (’55), and his MS (’58) and PhD (’59) from Purdue University. He sat one year at the University of Stockholm as American-Scandinavian Foundation Scholar, and worked in a British hospital (Essex) to complete his licensing requirements before settling into a career of consulting and private practice in the Washington, D.C. area (’64–’90). As opportunities emerged, he started consulting and reviewing for the National Registry of Health Service Providers in Psychology (’75), and teaching at the Union Institute Graduate School (’80), a university-with-out-walls originally based in Cincinnati, Ohio. Noel’s interest in and involvement with international issues was awakened, and he worked to find ways to be engaged without the harmful excesses of travel. He became a founding member of the International Society of Political Psychology (1986) and served the first ten years as its Treasurer. He was president and senior Board member of the Institute for Victims of Trauma (’87–’06) addressing international issues of political victims. These two organizations served to inform him of emerging academic disciplines such as conflict resolution, ethno-political warfare and trauma recovery, popular topics among the graduate students he advised. He moved to Sarasota in 1990, and reduced his ongoing professional activities to those of a psychology educator. For more information, please contact Leila F. Dane, at (703) 847 8456.

Joan Gildemeister, Recruitment, Retention and Public Relations Chair

“IN ALL HIS PERSONAL INTERACTIONS, WHETHER WITH SON’S-IN-LAW, OR HIS CHILDREN OR STUDENTS, FATHER WAS EXPLICIT IN RECOGNIZING EACH PERSON’S QUALITIES, EXALTING IN OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CELEBRATING THE DIFFERENCES AMONG US.”

DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

A number of members have inquired about making monetary gifts to the Society. All such donations are greatly welcomed to help the Society meet our budget and to fund new and important peace-making activities! Donation checks should be made out to APA, Division 48, and should be sent to:

John Gruszkos, Division 48 Treasurer
7301 Forest Ave, Suite 201
Richmond, VA 23226

Please identify any such amounts as donations. Donations of this sort are tax-exempt.
of American casualties. President Bush’s approval ratings are now below 40 percent, with only 32 percent supporting his management of the war in Iraq (Gajewski, 2005) and 25 percent believing that he could rebuild the Hurricane Katrina disaster area. The American people appear to be seeking the alternative approaches to foreign relations and stronger emphases on domestic recovery—two characteristics more often found in “feminine” politics.

The increasingly negative public opinion of the Bush Administration’s “masculine” approach to foreign war and domestic need may explain why participants in this study favored the feminine candidates in most conditions. It is possible that the non-specific mortality salience induction used in this study could have also reminded participants of death by natural disaster in addition to the threat of foreign attacks. Based on the low approval ratings of the Katrina relief effort, these fears may have served to diminish the support for masculine candidates.

References
Invite Friends to Join Division 48

Invite your friends to join the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association (Division 48). Give them a membership application and invite them to join the Society and a working group!

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence works to promote peace in the world at large and within nations, communities, and families. It encourages psychological and multidisciplinary research, education, and training on issues concerning peace, nonviolent conflict resolution, reconciliation and the causes, consequences, and prevention of violence and destructive conflict.

Division 48 web site

Please visit the Division 48 web site at:
http://www.peacepsych.org

There is a second way to get to our web site—go to the APA web site, scroll down to Division 48, click on it, and you’ll find our web site address at the bottom of that page. The APA URL is:

Let me know if you have any difficulty getting to our web site.

Linda M. Woolf
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peace is possible.
think it. plan it. do it.