



# PEACE Psychology

Newsletter of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence:  
Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association

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*We live in the present,  
we dream of the future  
and we learn  
eternal truths  
from the past.*

*Madame Chiang Kai-Shek*



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## From the Editor

I am a political junkie. There...I said it.

Indeed, I have been in 7th heaven for the past year or so as the U.S. Presidential election process has heated up. I used to religiously watch the Sunday morning political talk shows—until my three year old began to take an interest in the television (I cannot for the life of me understand why he does not like “Meet the Press”).

This election cycle has been extraordinary for many reasons. First and foremost are the politicians themselves—representing the most diverse slate in U.S. history. The fact that this election cycle comes after the failed policies of the Bush administration underscores the importance of this election in the U.S. and across the globe. The global economic crisis has only furthered the importance of this election.

As an academic, I love politics because it enables students to see psychology in action. Every one of my classes, from social psychology (social influence) to statistics (sampling, polling, and margins of error), benefits from the inclusion of politics. Unfortunately, this election has also provided ample material for my prejudice and discrimination class.

For every “ism” I cover in class (e.g. racism, sexism, ageism, lookism), an example from the current campaign is just a quick Google search away. For example, racist images of Senator Barack Obama have appeared on waffle boxes and food stamps. Governor Palin has been called “Caribou Barbie” and had to defend questions about her clothing budget (despite the fact the other nominees regularly purchase apparel from high end retail stores). At 72, John McCain has consistently fielded questions about diminished cognitive abilities and the possibility that his running mate is one heartbeat away from the Presidency. These are but a fraction of the examples that have appeared during the campaign.

However, the smear that has stuck throughout this campaign, largely on conservative



**Michael R. Hulsizer,**  
Editor

talk radio, mass e-mails of uncertain origin, and thousands of internet hate sites is the allegation that Barack Obama is a Muslim. The typical response to these allegations from the candidates and every respectable news organization is a quick assertion that Barack Obama is a Christian. However, former Secretary of State Colin Powell under President George W. Bush, in his eloquent endorsement of Senator Obama delivered on NBC’s “Meet the Press” on October 19, provided a response that I wish would have been more pronounced during the campaign:

I’m also troubled by, not what Senator McCain says, but what members of the party say. And it is permitted to be said such things as, “Well, you know that Mr. Obama is a Muslim.” Well, the correct answer is, he is not a Muslim, he’s a Christian. He’s always been a Christian. But the really right answer is, what if he is? Is there something wrong with being a Muslim in this country? The answer’s no, that’s not America. Is there something wrong with some seven-year-old Muslim-American kid believing that he or she could be president? Yet, I have heard senior members of my own party drop the suggestion, “He’s a Muslim and he might be associated with terrorists.” This is not the way we should be doing it in America.

Researchers in the social sciences have demonstrated the lengths to which individuals will go to divide and maintain the world into ingroups and outgroup: Us and Them. Once the world is separated into good and evil, sacred and profane, human and subhuman, it is not such a stretch to engage in prejudice, discrimination, vio-

# Meanwhile, back at home..



**Deborah Fish Ragin**  
President  
Society for the Study of  
Peace, Conflict, and Violence

lence, and ultimately extermination. The articles in this edition of the *Peace Psychology* newsletter address the processes that lead to the separation of Us and Them, identify factors that maintain these divisions, highlight the dangers that can result from such simple categorizations, and the steps that can be taken to reverse these trends. I hope you find these articles informative.

This is my first edition at the helm of the *Peace Psychology* newsletter. I cannot help but feel that I am filling some very big shoes given the wonderful job JW P. Heuchert did in this same position over so many years. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the newsletter and assisted me throughout the process. Please continue to submit your thoughts, announcements, short research reports, and contributions to the address below by February 28, 2008.

In Peace

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**A**t the beginning of my term as President-elect, I attended a Division Leadership Conference sponsored by APA. The organizers of the conference warned us that our year as president of our respective divisions would go by quickly. They were right!

It seems like it was only yesterday when I was preparing to assume the responsibilities of president. I remember quite well the main issues that I faced in January: plans for the 2008 convention, specifically plans to honor the pioneers in peace psychology, the special recognition for the humanitarian workers, the Division's continuing efforts to obtain a moratorium on psychologist's involvement in military interrogations, and the unbelievable defeat of the amendment to extend voting rights to the four COR members who represented the ethnic minority psychology associations. Midway through the year, another major issue presented itself: the 2009 World Conference on Racism. These issues and others made for a busy and at times challenging year. I have enjoyed every minute of this year, challenges notwithstanding, and offer my sincerest thanks to the members of Division 48 for the honor of serving as your president for 2008.

I would like to take this moment to review some of the important and notable events of this year. If you were able to attend the 2008 APA convention in Boston, I think you would agree that the luncheon for the pioneers in peace psychology was a wonderful tribute to the individuals who helped establish our field. That special event, together with the recognition of the humanitarian workers at our joint social hour with PsySR, the special student's session, the invited addresses and symposia and a host of other paper and poster sessions made for a memorable Division 48 program. On behalf of the Executive Committee and all members, I extend a sincere thanks to Division 48 members Julie Levitt, Program Chair, and Petra Hesse, Program Co-Chair, for their outstanding work on the 2008 convention program.

Through newsletters, mailings and e-mails we have tried to keep all our members informed of new developments on issues relevant to our Division. One major issue was and is the work on the moratorium issue. By now, many of you know that earlier this year the Psychologists for an Ethical APA (Ethical APA) sponsored and presented a referendum calling for a moratorium on psychologists' involvement in military interrogations. So much has been written on this referendum, including in this edition of the newsletter, that I will not review its history here. But, it is important to note that Ethical APA was successful in putting the referendum to a vote of the full APA membership, and the membership soundly supported the referendum. We congratulate Ethical APA on their success.

As many of you also know, the referendum is now in the hand of APA's Council of Representatives, the organization that is responsible for drafting the final resolution that will become APA policy. This process of drafting the resolution is very important because the final resolution will become APA's governing document. I am confident that Division 48 members join me in asking that APA and COR prepare a final document that is consistent with the intent of the referendum that was supported by the APA members.

A second critical issue which we addressed this year was the amendment to give voting rights to the four ethnic minority psychological association representatives to the Council of Representatives (COR). You may remember from our earlier communications that the amendment sought to grant voting rights to representatives from the Asian American Psychological Association, the Association of Black Psychologists, the Latino American Association and the Society of Indian Psychologists. The amendment was narrowly defeated. Many believe that the amendment failed because APA members were either unaware or uninformed of the amendment and its significance. The amendment was one of the inserts in the ballot for APA officers, but

(continued on page 4)

*(Meanwhile, back home continued from page 3)*

apparently many members either overlooked the amendment ballot or did not understand the amendment. The Council on Representatives voted to allow a re-vote of the amendment by the full membership and the time for the re-vote is soon approaching. Between now and November, you should receive your re-vote ballot. We urge all Division 48 members to cast a vote on this amendment, noting that the Executive Committee strongly supports the amendment.

Finally, the Division leaders were reminded of an important follow-up conference to the first World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, sponsored by the United Nations. The follow-up conference will be held in 2009 in Geneva. Corann Okorodudu, Division 48's representative to the Council on Representatives, has prepared a concise and thorough overview of the first conference, its outcomes, and the rationale for APA's continued involvement in this process which is included in this edition of the newsletter.

Briefly, in 2001, the APA wisely and correctly elected to send an official delegation to the conference; a decision that was consistent with APA's existing resolution against racism. It appears, however, that there is some doubt concerning APA's intention to send an official delegation to the 2009 Conference to continue the critical work on racism and intolerance at that meeting. The reasons for APA's hesitation are not entirely clear, but one thing is clear—intolerance is a contributing factor to conflict and violence. Part of our Division's mission is to end conflicts that develop as a result of intolerance or other forms of violence. Therefore, we believe it is vitally important that APA send an official delegation to the conference.

Combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance of any form cannot be addressed in a single world conference. The problem has been centuries in the making. While we all hope that it will not take even half that long to correct, we must be realistic enough to know that it will take several years of concerted efforts to learn to coexist. And, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize so aptly noted, "Unless we learn to live together as brothers and sisters we will die together as fools."

The mission of the 2009 Conference on Racism is one of our Division's missions. It is refreshing to see a major world organization acknowledge the pervasive problems caused by intolerance of any form and to acknowledge this as a global problem. But, we also know that intolerance is a domestic problem, another reason why the World Conference on Racism is important for our Division. This year, Division 48's convention theme, Peace Psychology: Social Justice at Home and Abroad, was chosen with this point in mind. On the international front, or what we call "abroad" in our theme, many within our field of peace psychology have done outstanding work addressing violence and conflicts in other nations. Some of the conflict developed as result of intolerance. The conflicts in Bosnia, Burma, Darfur, and Iraq remind us that we must continue to engage in international efforts to achieve peace. At the same time, we must not forget that these same problems exist in the U.S.

In closing, I will point to a recent example of our Division's efforts to call attention to and support individuals who were waging a battle against social injustice. Just before the start of the 2008 APA Convention, we learned through e-mails from APA that the

concession workers at the Boston Convention Center had been engaged in protracted and, as of that point, unsuccessful negotiations with their employer, ARMARK, to negotiate fairer wages and benefits. After almost a year of unsuccessful talks, the workers and their union, Unite Here Local 26, presented their complaints to the National Labor Relations Board, who agreed to file a complaint on their behalf against ARMARK "for allegedly interfering with, restraining and coercing employees in the exercise of their rights, discrimination in regards to hire, tenure or terms of employment of its employees, and discouraging membership in a labor organization and failing and refusing to bargain collectively and in good faith."

Thanks to several of our members on the Executive Committee, and I note with special thanks, Judith Van Hoorn, the Executive Committee unanimously agreed to request that all Division 48 members who attended the conference honor the boycott of concession services at the Boston Convention Center, as requested by Unite Here Local 26, to support the workers and their efforts to obtain a fair and decent wage. This is just one example of the work needed here at home to strive for social justice, tolerance and absence of discrimination. As we continue our wonderful work on peace and social justice, let us be sure to remember the work here at home as well as abroad.

In Peace,

Deborah Fish Ragin, President

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*"Unless we learn to live together as brothers  
and sisters we will die together as fools."*

*— Martin Luther King*

# Striving for Peace *with Justice*



**Eduardo I. Diaz**  
President-Elect,  
Society for the Study of Peace,  
Conflict, and Violence

**I** AM WRITING THIS AS HURRICANE IKE RIPS THROUGH EASTERN CUBA, THE LAND OF my birth and early childhood memories. This is the second major hurricane that hits the island in a matter of weeks and I am experiencing significant sympathetic pain, as well as anger that stems from a sense of impotence at not being able to be of much help. It's the politics of two intransigent governments that gets in the way of offering real humanitarian assistance to people in need.

Please pardon my rant, I feel deeply about family and friends that I am not allowed to assist, or even visit, because of policies imposed by those in power. My cousins and aunts aren't considered close enough family to qualify me for a "humanitarian visit" every three years! Suffice it to say that it is almost impossible to heal a divided family when you are kept from engaging each other.

You now have some exposure as to why I fell in love with the practice of Peace Psychology. I have been a student of conflict since childhood. I strive for peace with justice in just

about all of my adult activities and I'm still looking for any government that does not, at some point, lie to the people.

I'm pleased to report that I am keeping up with President-Elect duties and that my Boston Convention experience was mostly positive. There were a couple of avoidable glitches but I intend to learn from them. I have chosen "Creating Peace with Justice" as our Division's program theme for the Toronto Convention and I hope you will all consider submissions of your creative efforts to bring the world a bit closer to the way you believe it ought to be.

My term of President begins in January and I have been told by many that it passes by quickly. I will do everything I can to "do no harm" during my tenure. One of my early duties in office will be to preside over our mid-winter Executive Committee meeting at the Sheraton-New Orleans, on Saturday January 17th. This occurs immediately after the National Multicultural Conference and Summit (NMCS) scheduled for January 15-16, 2009.

We co-sponsor this event and encourage your participation.

On a positive note, the work I do to try to make a dent in structural violence continues to motivate me to keep pressing for constructive changes in our criminal justice system. I invite you to visit the website of my paying job, [www.miamidade.gov/irp](http://www.miamidade.gov/irp), to learn a little bit about civilian oversight of law enforcement. The prison work I do is aimed at building the capacity of inmates to empower themselves, and others, to reenter society with improved life skills, based on the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) model, and you can learn about that at [www.avpusa.org](http://www.avpusa.org).

Our Division is blessed with talent. You are scholars, activists, educators, therapists and leaders. Please help guide me in the transition to more helpful service.

*Eduardo I. Diaz can be contacted at  
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*"Peace comes from being able to contribute the best that we have, and all that we are, toward creating a world that supports everyone. But it is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are."*

*- Hafsat Abiola*

# Peace Psychology Notes

## *from the Boston Convention*

*Julie Levitt*

APA 2008 IN BOSTON was special because the Peace Division programming widely explored the meaning and application of our presidential theme, *Peace Psychology: Social Justice at Home and Abroad*, by bringing together our elders, our long-time members, our young career psychologists, new members, and students, some of whom are new to our division.

Especially in light of the recent economic developments and concerns that racism may be very much alive, our focus on minorities and their treatment here and abroad was particularly timely. We looked at health care, how service systems help to shape experience for children, violence in our communities, what can be done to lessen youth violence, and, in their own words, how minorities experience America and their suggestions for working together effectively. We also were represented in the 2008 APA Thematic Program: *Interpersonal Violence-Connecting Agendas and Forging New Directions*. Fathali Moghaddam, the recipient of the 2007 Ralph K. White Lifetime Achievement Award, eloquently described the existence of fractured globalization and how we can respond. Nicholas Freudenberg, awardee of the 2007 Morton Deutsch Award, offered a well-reasoned multidiscipline-community approach for lessening structural community violence. Barbara Tint and J. Christopher Cohrs, 2008 Early Career Awardees, gave us new perspectives for looking at war-related attitudes about aggression and peacefulness. These are just a few of the rich offerings presented by psychologists, experienced researchers, and practitioners in our symposia and poster session.

I am delighted to report that our special student poster session and efforts to bring more students to our meeting were successful. The ten student presenters spoke about a variety of topics related to the conference theme. What was particularly exciting was that there were students from undergraduate as well as graduate programs. Hopefully, our program will generate interest among our undergraduates in majoring in peace psychology as well as help launch students already engaged and committed to peace psychology as their graduate work.

Most moving was our conversation and lunch on 8/16/08 with some of our esteemed pioneer peace psychologists. This event, co-hosted with Psychologists for Social Responsibility, brought regular convention attendees together with members of our division who have been less active in division activities and newcomers. The Pioneer Peace Psychologists who spoke were Herbert C. Kelman, M. Brewster Smith, and Dorothy Ciarlo. In addition, we played portions of videotaped interviews of Morton Deutsch with Member-At-Large Judy Kuriansky and Doris Miller (whom I interviewed). There was also special mention of Jean Maria Arrigo, who has worked with interrogators and other intelligence professionals to oppose the role of psychologists in harsh interrogation at Guantanamo and other prisoner detainee sites. It was uplifting to see our elders, other long associated members, and students come together for a celebration of Peace Psychology as a discipline from its inception to new directions in the 21st Century. The session was videotaped and will be made available.

Later in the day, president Deborah Fish Ragin gave a powerful address which focused on minorities, social injustice, and our roles in bringing about positive change. At our Business Meeting, Eduardo Diaz, our President-Elect, gave out awards to Richard I. Wagner for the Ignació Martín Baró Lifetime Peace Practitioner Award, Michael G. Wessells for the Ralph K. White Lifetime Achievement Award, Susan Opatow for the Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award, Deborah Fish Ragin for the Award for Leadership as Division President, and Julie Meranze Levitt for the Outstanding Service Award. In the evening at our Social Hour, we recognized the following international peace practitioner psychologists highlighted in the December 2007

APA Monitor: Sheung-Tak Cheng, Kathryn L. Norsworthy, Chris E. Stout, Gerard Jacobs, Eduardo I. Diaz, Michael G. Wessells, Martha Givaudan, Jon Hubbard, and Amal Winter. Drs. Diaz, Norsworthy and Wessells are members of Division 48. Fortunate for us, five of the noteworthy internationalists, Drs. Diaz, Jacobs, Norsworthy, Stout, and Wessells, were able to join with us at our reception. The other practitioners sent greetings and expressions of support for our work in Division 48. In addition, we acknowledged Daniel L. Shapiro for his international community service. This Social Hour, co-hosted with Psychologists for Social Responsibility, was enjoyable and an opportunity for us to gather, talk and get to know others who share our passion for peace with justice.

Eduardo Diaz, our President-Elect, plans a further exploration of the 2008 APA Convention topic in his presidential theme for APA 2009, *Creating Peace with Justice*, which will look more deeply into community and its needs.

*Julie Meranze Levitt can be contacted at  
julie.levitt@verizon.net*



**Members of the Executive Committee at APA: Boston**

*Top row light to right: Joe de Rivera, John Paul Szura, Dan Mayton, Joan Gildemeister, and JW P. Heuchert*

*Middle row light to right: Julie Levitt, Judy Kuriansky, Kathleen Dockett, and Rachel MacNair*

*First row light to right: Deborah Fish Ragin and Ethel Tobach*



**Student poster session**

Neda Faregh (right) explains poster to viewer



**Division Awardees for Leadership/Accomplishment:**

From left to right:  
Michael Wessells, Deborah Fish Ragin, Richard Wagner, Susan Opotow, Julie Levitt

# Reflections on the 2008 APA Conference: Boston

Ani Kalayjian, Fordham University

The 2008 APA convention was widely successful. Several professionals spoke about their current research projects and provided psychological knowledge intended to benefit society and improve people's lives. Keynote speaker Malcolm Gladwell, author of best-selling books *Blink* and *The Tipping Point*, talked about the role of adversity in various psychological fields. Additionally, the 2008 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest was rewarded to Philip G. Zimbardo. Among interesting panel discussions, an incident of alleged involvement of a psychologist in an abusive interrogation of a Guantanamo detainee was discussed, as it is a clear violation of professional ethical standards.

The Division of International Psychology (Division 52), which represents the interests of psychologists who engage in multicultural research and help aid global development, held lectures with topics ranging from international perspectives on gender and health to ethics and dilemmas worldwide. In response to the devastating damage of Cyclone Nargis, which struck Myanmar on May 2, 2008, I proposed creating an online prayer group to send healing to victims through a Global Healing Consciousness Network. The Disaster Committee met at the Division's Suite and discussed strategies for disaster education, outreach, and interventions that are internationally based.

In my capacity as the Chair of the International Division's Mentoring Committee, I conducted a round table at the Division's Suite, with the goal of connecting psychologists, early career professionals, students and affiliates globally. Since mentoring relationships have traditionally taken place between mentors and mentees in close proximity, this program illustrates how technological advances have changed the way psychologists of all ages and backgrounds interact and learn from each other. The internet, e-mail, Skype, SMS, social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace, have allowed mentors and mentees to easily establish and maintain productive relationships across great distances

which have taken international psychology mentoring to new levels. The motto for my work is that "when one helps another, both are made stronger."

A symposium organized by Dr. Takooshian and sponsored by the APA Membership Board and the APA Society for General Psychology brought together several experts from different areas to review the age factor in embracing technology, and the significance of this for APA and its membership. The invited speakers were Tony F. Habash (APA Board), Scott Plous (Wesleyan University), Mathilde Salmberg (Georgetown University), Nabil H. El-Ghoroury (Metrohealth Medical Center), Vicki V. Vandaveer (Vandaveer Group); Sandra Tars (Chair of the APA Membership Board), and myself.

SPSSI had organized a Symposium cosponsored by Division 48 (Peace Psychology), 56 (Trauma Psychology), 52 (International

Psychology), 27 (Community Psychology). The symposium was entitled: Peace Psychology: State of the Art and Science. Daniel J. Christie, Ph.D. spoke about the Models of Intervention during a cycle of violence, which includes the conflict phase, violent phase, post-violent phase, and intervention at the structural and cultural level.

Naomi Lee, M.A. and Fathali M. Moghaddam, Ph.D. spoke about the range of conflict situations that can be explored through positioning theory, from intra- and inter-personal to intergroup and international conflicts, as well as different examples of conflict between minority and majority groups. They used pertinent examples of the relationship among Iran, U.S., and EU as well as between domestic workers and their employers. I gave a lecture on transforming trauma into healing through forgiveness and peace building citing the continual sadness, resentment and

*(continued on page 10)*



Members of the Peace Psychology Symposium





## *Change Has Come to America*

*If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible; who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time; who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.*

*It's the answer told by lines that stretched around schools and churches in numbers this nation has never seen; by people who waited three hours and four hours, many for the very first time in their lives, because they believed that this time must be different; that their voice could be that difference.*

*It's the answer spoken by young and old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled—Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been a collection of Red States and Blue States: we are, and always will be, the United States of America.*

*It's the answer that led those who have been told for so long by so many to be cynical, and fearful, and doubtful of what we can achieve to put their hands on the arc of history and bend it once more toward the hope of a better day.*

*It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America.*

*President-Elect Barack Obama*

*Election Night, Tuesday, November 4th, 2008, Chicago, Illinois*

*R. Wood*

# INVITED PAPER

## DRAWING LINES IN THE SAND: How Political Party Identification Turns Rational Discussion into Emotional Conflict

(Reflections continued from page 8)

anger of Armenians to the Ottoman Turkish Genocide due to a lack of validation and reparation as an example for the need of forgiveness. Psychotherapeutic practices have shown increases in physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing when victims choose to shift helplessness into empowerment through forgiveness. Consequently, I proposed that a creation of peace on the interpersonal and intrapersonal levels would ultimately create peace and reconciliation worldwide. Peace begins in the soul of each and every one of us—I challenge everyone to embrace peace through practice of forgiveness.

Having worked closely with victims testifying before the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), Brandon Hamber, Ph.D. spoke about the need to support victims if they are ready to be active agents within their environment. He argued that civic participation speeds up the individual healing process and ultimately leads to a collective process of peace-building. Michael Wessells, Ph.D. spoke about youth and political violence, citing why youth become involved in political violence and about how to aid their reintegration into civilian life. He argued that, often, youth choose to enter armed groups to end social injustice and oppression, because they view violence as their only viable option for political change. Dr. Wessells also provided evidence to portray that reintegration is possible for the overwhelming majority of formerly recruited children.

Q & A revealed the need to designate more time to the topic of forgiveness and peace building that is recently developed in scientific circles, and recommended strategies for further collaboration between divisions and other APA bodies. The chair also announced the upcoming series on peace building through Springer. Dr. Raymond F. Paloutzian and I are editing one of the volumes entitled *Forgiveness: Pathway for Peace building and Peace Keeping*. For more information visit: [www.meaningfulworld.com](http://www.meaningfulworld.com), or contact Dr. Kalayjian at (201) 941-2266, e-mail: [AKalayjian@meaningfulworld.com](mailto:AKalayjian@meaningfulworld.com).

Do you ever get the feeling that Republicans and Democrats do not like each other? Several recent examples illustrate how prominent members of the political parties are sometimes unable to conceal their disdain for the opposing party, even in public venues. When campaigning to head the Democratic National Committee, a position he later won, Howard Dean was quoted as saying, “I hate republicans...” Vice President Dick Cheney reportedly directed a curse word at a democratic senator during official proceedings of the U.S. Senate. Of course, it is not just the political elites in congress who seem to dislike each other. The discourse of bloggers, talk radio hosts, and televised pundits is usually more heated and hostile than good-natured and respectful. Even real life, as opposed to the mass media, is full of examples. Most find it easy to remember conversations with friends, family members, or co-workers involving prejudicial statements (often involving intellectual or moral inferiority) against members of certain political parties. In fact, I would venture to guess that if most of us were to engage in an honest bit of introspection, some partisan fear and loathing might be uncovered.

The thesis of this paper is that there is prejudice and discrimination between members of different political parties, and it is entirely predictable from social psychological theories of intergroup conflict like social identity theory (Greene, 1999, 2004). For political partisans, their parties become core components of their social identities. When one belongs to a group, especially one that is important to one's sense of identity, there are a wide range of ingroup-outgroup effects that often follow. Social identity theory, for example, proposes that people naturally categorize themselves and others into ingroups and outgroups based on salient social categories. The categorization process provides people with both a definition of group characteristics and a prescription for appropriate beliefs and behaviors of group members that serves to accentuate differences between the ingroup and the outgroup. Categorization coupled with self-enhancement motives produce ingroup favoritism in evaluations of and be-



Geoffrey  
D. Munro,  
Towson  
University

havior toward group members. The paragraphs that follow describe research that supports the political partisan prejudice thesis.

### Party over Policy

One tenet of social identity theory is that we tend to be influenced by the social norms prescribed by our ingroup. Cohen (2003) found support for this tenet in a paper entitled “party over policy.” Liberals and conservatives were given a welfare policy report that either described a generous policy or a stringent policy. As you might expect, liberals liked the generous policy whereas conservatives liked the stringent policy. However, for some conditions, participants were also given information about the percentage of house democrats and republicans who favored the policy. Sometimes 95% of Democrats and 10% of Republicans favored the policy; sometimes those percentages were reversed. When the group percentages were included, the results were very different. Now, conservatives liked the policy that was supported by Republicans and liberals liked the policy that was supported by Democrats. This was true regardless of whether the policy was the generous or stringent one. In card-playing terms, party support or opposition trumped the actual policy. We strictly adhere to the norms of the group or group leaders—we toe the party line.

### The Ultimate Attribution Error

In addition to adhering to party norms, partisans will make attributions about politically-relevant behavior that are supportive of their political worldviews. In general, this effect is known as the ultimate attribution error (Pet-

tigrew, 1979). Hulsizer, Munro, Fagerlin, and Taylor (2004) showed that conservative vs. liberal political ideology predicted culpability and global attributions about the causes of a politically-charged historical event (e.g., the National Guard shootings at Kent State on May 4, 1970). Conservatives attributed less blame to guardsmen whose behaviors were explained as defensive reactions to the demonstrator's provocations. Liberals attributed more blame to guardsmen whose behaviors were explained as unprovoked attacks on peaceful demonstrators. Similarly, evidence suggests that liberals and conservatives tend to make relatively effortless internal attributions (e.g., attributing a person's poor socioeconomic status to laziness or a lack of intelligence) unless the internal attributions are inconsistent with their ideological worldviews. If inconsistent, then they will engage in a more effortful correction process that will often incorporate situational factors that are external to the target and more consistent with their ideological worldviews (e.g., institutional discrimination; Skitka, Mullen, Griffin, Hutchinson, & Chamberlin, 2002). Both of these research efforts suggest that political parties or ideologies can lead people to differing attributions about the same event - attributions that are supportive of their political ideologies.

### Biased Suspicion

Are political partisans biased in the degree to which they are suspicious of, for example, pandering politicians? It appears that they are (McGraw, Lodge, & Jones, 2002). Participants read a newspaper article indicating that a politician who was aware of the local majority opinion about gun control gave a speech to that locality that was either consistent or inconsistent with the local majority. As expected, suspicion was greater when the politician gave a speech that was consistent with the local majority—that is, when the possibility of pandering was present. Importantly, suspicion depended on whether or not the perceiver's own gun control opinions were consistent or inconsistent with the politician's. There was greater suspicion when perceivers disagreed with the gun control position of the politician and less suspicion when perceivers agreed with the politician's position. Additionally, suspicion was associated with more negative evaluations of the politician's character. Motivations to perceive a politician in a positive or negative light (based on the politician's party or policy opinions) can influence the amount of suspicion and, hence, the attributions and evaluations of the politician.

### Emotional Reasoning

The idea that ingroup favoritism is driven by self-enhancement biases is supported by research showing that political judgments operate via motivated reasoning principles that involve emotion (Lodge & Taber, 2005; Morris, Squires, Taber, & Lodge, 2003; Redlawsk, 2002). For example, evaluations of the strength of Bob Dole's and Bill Clinton's arguments during the first 1996 presidential debate revealed a clear partisan bias in which the argument evaluations were mediated by viewers' affective reactions to the debaters (Munro et al., 2002). In this model, when partisans encounter politically-relevant concepts, there is an immediate and automatic emotional reaction that drives the processing of information about the concept toward an outcome that is consistent with or favorable to the political worldview of the partisan. So, for political partisans, reasoning about political information is driven by the emotional preference to find support for the existing worldview rather than by the goal to arrive at a logical conclusion that may or may not support the existing worldview.

### Naïve Realism/Bias Blind Spot

The idea that identifying with a political party leads to an accentuation of the differences between one's ingroup party and the outgroup is easily exemplified by the red state/blue state terminology that is so commonly used. As documented by Seyle and Newman (2006), this simplified categorization scheme inaccurately represents the purplish nature of the actual electorate while also contributing to exaggerated stereotypes that are not healthy for political discourse. The exaggeration of the political divide is caused partly by the ease with which we recognize bias in others coupled with the difficulty of recognizing bias in ourselves. Robinson, Keltner, Ward, and Ross (1995) showed that on the abortion debate, for example, people reported that their own beliefs were not driven by political ideology but by reasoned analysis of the real world, while the views of people on the other side of the controversy were driven by political ideology rather than reality. It is sometimes called "naïve realism"—we think that our perceptions of the world are based on reality rather than our own subjective perspective of it. Similarly, the "bias blind spot" occurs when people believe that biases affect others, but they resist the belief that their own judgments are biased (Pronin, Lin, & Ross, 2002).

### Political Party Discrimination

Social identity theory suggests that group identification extends beyond simple percep-

tual biases into discriminatory behaviors. One of the important findings that led to the creation of social identity theory is the discriminatory behavior of participants in the minimal group paradigm. In this paradigm, the simple assignment of participants to groups based on trivial distinctions led to a competitive accrual of rewards favoring the ingroup (Tajfel, Billig, Bundy, & Flament, 1971). The discriminatory behavior was based on no history of intergroup conflict; it was based solely on the categorization process and ingroup identification. This aspect of social identity theory is supported by recent research suggesting that outgroup members were discriminated against in a simulated college admissions decision involving a forced choice between a politically-neutral applicant and an applicant of an opposing political party. This was true even though the academic achievement history favored the applicant from the opposing political party. Partisans distorted their evaluations of other more ambiguous application categories (the strength of a recommendation letter) to support their prejudicial decisions.

### Reducing the problem: Intergroup contact

The paragraphs above paint a pessimistic picture about interparty prejudice and discrimination in the United States. However, the field of social psychology has also provided theoretically derived research evidence into how intergroup prejudice can be reduced at the individual level if not the societal level. For example, the contact hypothesis (Allport, 1954) proposes that increased exposure to members of outgroups in positive interaction situations will decrease prejudice. Applied to political parties, processes like naïve realism and the bias blind spot might make people resistant to open, candid discussion between groups because they perceive outgroup members to be ideologically-driven and defensively-resistant to logical arguments. Unfortunately, this produces a self-fulfilling prophecy which reduces the likelihood that inaccurate stereotypes will be changed and shared concerns will be found. So, according to the contact hypothesis, we must abandon the notion that one should never discuss politics at the dinner table. Importantly, informal interactions between political party members will only reduce prejudices if certain conditions (e.g., a cooperative rather than competitive mindset) exist (Pettigrew, 1998).

### Reducing the problem: Inclusive Group Categorization

One feature of intergroup interactions that promotes prejudice reduction is the identification of superordinate goals, goals that are

shared by members of both groups and cannot be achieved without the cooperation of both groups (Sherif, Harvey, White, Hood, & Sherif, 1961). Superordinate goals can create a recategorization process in which members of smaller groups (e.g., political party members) reconceptualize themselves as members of a common, larger group such as U.S. citizens (Gaertner, Dovidio, Anastasio, Bachman, & Rust, 1993). The recategorization process short-circuits the unfavorable consequences of party identification that are explained by social identity theory. This kind of recategorization can be seen in the somewhat rare instances when members of congress put partisan bickering aside to unify behind a single cause (e.g., assisting the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina). Unfortunately, it usually takes a disaster of some sort, rather than more common everyday problems, to initiate this kind of unity in the U.S. Congress. Furthermore, the solutions often are compromised by a return to partisan disagreements or a different ingroup-outgroup categorization that could lead to prejudice between nations rather than between political parties (e.g., in decisions to initiate conflict with other nations). At the local level (e.g., interactions between neighbors), however, there may be great promise in minimizing the emphasis on political party labels and identifying common problems and goals.

### Reducing the problem: Self-affirmation

One problem with political discussions between members of different political parties is that they often devolve into biased, defensive, and closed-minded protection of the political opinions of one's party. This inflexibility is predicted from social identity theory because the party is often closely attached to one's sense of identity, which is, of course, closely guarded and protected in order to maintain a favorable sense of self. Research suggests, however, that a more open-minded willingness to accept opposing arguments and compromise by making concessions can be induced via self-affirmations (Cohen, Sherman, Bastardi, Hsu, McGoey, & Ross, 2007). Self-affirmations are opportunities to assert one's overall self-integrity by thinking about positive or important qualities of the self. Importantly, the research clearly shows that self-affirmations can induce open-mindedness to opposing arguments in one self-domain (e.g., one's political identification) by affirming qualities of the self in other domains (e.g., relationships with friends). So, in political discussions between members of different political parties, people are likely to resort to defensive rigidity if they feel that their self-integrities are threatened by attacks

on their political parties. If, on the other hand, the situation in which the discussion occurs is one that provides warmth, acceptance, and cues that one's self-worth is valued, then more favorable consequences are likely.

### Conclusion

Early theories of political opinion (the rational choice theories) as well as many people's idealistic notions of the nature of political thought and political party choices presume that political attitudes and voting behavior are the result of a reasoned, thoughtful analysis of political information. New information about a candidate is rationally considered as having either positive or negative implications for one's self-interests, and the new information is then integrated with old information to update the person's political opinions or choice of political party or candidate.

While the rational choice theories might serve as a model of how people should make political judgments, it appears to be clear that they do not accurately depict how people do make political judgments. Given the research reviewed in this paper, any valid model of political attitudes and behavior needs to incorporate the powerful motivational processes that emerge when one identifies with a salient and important group like a political party. Social identity theory and other models of prejudice and discrimination do incorporate these processes and can easily explain the strong emotions, biased judgments, and discriminatory behaviors that characterize political interaction between party members in the United States. By employing a social identity theory approach to political parties, we might be better able to reduce inter-party prejudices and make progress toward the completion of goals that are valued by members of all political parties.

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# Americans & Japanese Commemorate 9/11

## Together



*Silent peace walk from New York Buddhist Church to Riverside Church*



*Peace candle vigil from New York Buddhist Church to Riverside Church as part of 9/11 memorial*

*Judy Kuriansky*

In the early morning hours on the 7th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center, I sat in the radio studio of WOR talk show host Joey Reynolds, located within a block of the site where the Twin Towers fell. As the police were preparing barricades for that day's memorial, I shared my experience of having been a Red Cross mental health volunteer for months after the attacks. As psychologists, we made rounds at the "pit" (the site of where the towers fell), handing out water bottles and gloves (it was cold on some of those September nights) to police, firemen, electricians and other rescue workers.

With me in the studio was my songwriting partner in my peace band, "The Stand Up For Peace Project" who sang the song on the air which we wrote about healing after that tragedy. "Towers of Light" aims to help the recovery process, honor the heroes and bring some closure to those left behind ([www.towersoflightsong.com](http://www.towersoflightsong.com)). The origin of the song is a lovely story—Russell Daisey composed the song for his class project when taking my course at Columbia University Teachers College in the summer after 9/11. A sample of the lyrics: "Even though my heart is broken, I have memories as a token of those lost words that were spoken on that day...though I know I must go on, it's still hurts that you are

gone, but I trust there'll be a dawn each brand new day..."

Also in the radio studio was Reverend T.K. Nakagaki, minister of the New York Buddhist Church, who organized the 7th annual 9/11 Japanese Floating Lantern Ceremony which took place later that day at Pier 40 on the Hudson River. The interfaith ceremony features leaders from every major religion offering prayers, meditations and benedictions ([http://www.newyorkbuddhistchurch.org/images\\_hatsubon2002.html](http://www.newyorkbuddhistchurch.org/images_hatsubon2002.html)). Another guest on the radio show was Japanese rock star Shinji Harada, who does peace charity concerts all over the world. "I strongly believe all the people of American and Japan have the right and obligation to send the message out to the world, for peace to prevail," said Harada.

The radio show was the first of a whirlwind week of concerts and memorials. Twelve hours later, about a thousand people gathered for the memorial at the pier, with drumming, chanting, and prayers of grace, gratitude and comfort from clerics of Hindu, Christian, Jewish and even Haitian traditions. People wrote messages of peace and love on rice paper—with pictures of the 9/11 rescue workers who died and messages from children in Japan brought by members of the Meeting for Children's Future and Peace ([\[antenn.aikotoba.jp\]\(http://antenn.aikotoba.jp\)\)—wrapped around stick frames with candles inside to form lanterns, which were then ceremoniously set afloat into the river. As Reverend Nakagaki explained, "Through this tradition, as done in Japan, peace and harmony are sent out over the water into the universe."](http://peaceel-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

The next night, at a private gala at the Sony Club in New York, guests celebrated the 70th anniversary of the New York Buddhist Church. Shinji performed his song "Yamato, the Global Harmony."

At Sunday morning services at the New York Buddhist Church, Russell and I performed our song, "Stand Up for Peace" which we had written and sung the year before at the First Hiroshima International Peace Summit featuring three Nobel Peace Prize laureates—the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu and Betty Williams. As Reverend Nakagaki said, "stand up for peace" signifies the essence of all the memorial events.

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# Original Text of the APA Torture Referendum

The petition resolution stating that psychologists may not work in settings where "persons are held outside of, or in violation of, either International Law (e.g., the UN Convention Against Torture and the Geneva Conventions) or the US Constitution (where appropriate), unless they are working directly for the persons being detained or for an independent third party working to protect human rights" was approved. The final vote tally was 8,792 voting in favor of the resolution; 6,157 voting against the resolution. The text of the referendum is reproduced below:

*We the undersigned APA members in good standing, pursuant to article IV.5 of the APA bylaws, do hereby petition that the following motion be submitted to APA members for their approval or disapproval, by referendum, with all urgency:*

*Whereas torture is an abhorrent practice in every way contrary to the APA's stated mission of advancing psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting human welfare.*

*Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Mental Health and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture have determined that treatment equivalent to torture has been taking place at the United States Naval Base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. [1]*

*Whereas this torture took place in the context of interrogations under the direction and supervision of Behavioral Science Consultation Teams (BSCTs) that included psychologists. [2, 3]*

*Whereas the Council of Europe has determined that persons held in CIA black sites are subject to interrogation techniques that are also equivalent to torture [4], and because psychologists helped develop abusive interrogation techniques used at these sites. [3, 5]*

*Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross determined in 2003 that the conditions in the US detention facility in Guantánamo Bay are themselves tantamount to torture [6], and therefore by their presence psychologists are playing a role in maintaining these conditions.*

*Be it resolved that psychologists may not work in settings where persons are held outside of, or in violation of, either International Law (e.g., the UN Convention Against Torture and the Geneva Conventions) or the US Constitution (where appropriate), unless they are working directly for the persons being detained or for an independent third party working to protect human rights [7].*

## Footnotes

[1] United Nations Commission on Human Rights (2006). Situation of detainees at Guantánamo Bay. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/16\\_02\\_06\\_un\\_guantanamo.pdf](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/16_02_06_un_guantanamo.pdf). The full title of the 'Special Rapporteur on Mental Health' is the 'Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health'.

[2] Miles, S. (2007). Medical ethics and the interrogation of Guantanamo 063. *The American Journal of Bioethics*, 7(4), 5. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from [http://ajobonline.com/journal/j\\_articles.php?aid=1140](http://ajobonline.com/journal/j_articles.php?aid=1140)

[3] Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense: Review of DoD-Directed Investigations of Detainee Abuse. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from <http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/dod/abuse.pdf>

[4] Council of Europe Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights (2007). Secret detentions and illegal transfers of detainees involving Council of Europe member states: second report. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from <http://assembly.coe.int/Main.asp?link=http://assembly.coe.int/Documents/WorkingDocs/Doc07/edoc11302.htm>

[5] Eban, K. (2007). Rorschach and Awe. *Vanity Fair*. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from <http://www.vanityfair.com/politics/features/2007/07/torture200707>

[6] Lewis, N. A. (2004, November 30). Red Cross Finds Detainee Abuse in Guantánamo. Retrieved March 4, 2008, from <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/11/30/politics/30gitmo.html?oref=login&adxnlnx=1&oref=login&adxnlnx=1101831750->

[7] It is understood that military clinical psychologists would still be available to provide treatment for military personnel.

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# Message from the APA President

Alan E. Kazdin



In September, by a vote of 8,792 to 6,157, the membership adopted as APA policy a resolution prohibiting psychologists from working in detainee settings in which international law or the U.S. Constitution are violated, unless the psychologists are working directly for the people being detained or for an independent third party working to protect human rights or providing treatment to military personnel. Many members are now asking about the next steps to implement the new policy.

APA's governance and staff have been working on two tracks to implement the policy, one internal, the other external. Externally, we have been communicating to policymakers and the media that the APA membership has spoken and that our policy has changed in a fundamental way. We have issued a news release announcing the vote, which was covered by media including *The New York Times*, the Associated Press and *USA Today*, among others.

On Oct. 2, I sent a letter to President Bush, informing him and his administration of the new policy. Although his term is nearly over, I believe it was important to communicate the change since the Army's policy memo regarding the use of behavioral scientists in detention settings was set to expire in October. Also, I wanted to take this opportunity to repeat APA's call to investigate the many credible reports of the torture and abuse of detainees.

Early the following week, I sent letters to the Department of Defense, the Department of Justice, the CIA and Congress—again to get the word out about the policy change. All this information is now on APA's Web site (<http://www.apa.org/releases/interrogatepos.html>), along with other documents that trace the history of the association's policies prohibiting psychologists from ever participating in torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Within the APA family, we are now considering the next steps to put the policy into action. According to the Association's Bylaws and Rules, the resolution will become effective as official policy as of our next annual meeting—August 2009. However, judging from discussions on the Council listserv and conversations I have had with members, there is strong sentiment to make the policy effective sooner. There are also questions about the resolution's practical application. Understandably, members want to know what it means for them personally, what it means in their work setting.

Thus, I have asked for volunteers to be part of an advisory group on the resolution's implementation. Tentatively, this advisory group will include two members of the Board of Directors and six members of Council. I believe six Council members will allow me to appoint people who represent the broad range of constituent groups with concerns and questions. I have invited one of the three original sponsors of the petition to serve on the advisory group. The charge to this advisory group will be to:

- Determine what issues need clarification concerning the resolution, including its intent and scope;
- Identify and consider possible actions that would provide such clarifications for Council to review and consider at its February 2009 meeting.
- One of the options the group might present to Council could be to make the effective date of the new policy earlier than August 2009.

To those who have asked what is the immediate effect of this policy on psychologists, I would say we are all on notice that there are new limits on the roles we may play in certain detention centers. In terms of specific locations where psychologist participation is limited, the resolution establishes a legal test: The sites must violate U.S. or international law for psychologists' roles to be restricted.

One open question for the advisory group and Council is how we determine that a site is in violation of these tenets. Answering this question is very important, because it will be essential for APA members to know whether a particular site violates or complies with APA policy. This determination will be critical for APA members who may be sent to various work settings around the world. These are not simple questions and they cannot be taken lightly because they involve human rights of detainees as well as the livelihood of our colleagues.

Under the policy, if a site is in violation of U.S. or international law, psychologists may not work at that site unless they are working directly for the detainee or a third party human rights organization, or are providing care to military personnel. Our members' voice is now loud and clear on this limitation.

Some members have expressed concerns that the new policy could also restrict psychologists working in U.S. prisons, psychiatric hospitals and other venues where prisoners or patients are deprived of their basic human rights. That is a question that needs to be examined by the advisory group. We believe that was not the intention of the petitioners; a representative of the petition sponsors who I hope will serve on the advisory group will help address that question. One of the advisory group's options for consideration by APA's Council of Representatives might be to further clarify the scope of the resolution.

Over the past year, the Board of Directors took a number of steps to ensure fairness in the petition process, including using an outside vendor to count and verify all votes to ensure neutrality. I am proud of the process we have undertaken and to see the process work well.

Our predecessors in APA governance created the APA Bylaws and Rules to guide the association through such processes. These rules and bylaws create a mechanism by which the members have a direct voice in the association's decision making; they also codify specific roles for the Board of Directors and the Council of Representatives in the process.

Our members have spoken. As president, at least for a few more months, my mandate and mission is to embrace the will of the membership and to ensure that the intent and scope of the resolution are clear, fully communicated and implemented. I am eager to embrace the letter and spirit the resolution reflects and welcome your input and responses.

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# THE HOLOCAUST: Lessons Not Learned

Linda M. Woolf, Webster University



*Steps down to the gas chambers at the psychiatric hospital at Hadamar. Over 10,000 psychiatric patients (children and adults) were killed in this gas chamber.*

**T**he Holocaust remains the worst case of industrialized genocide in history. Between 1939 and 1945, the Nazis killed millions of Jews, Roma/Sinti (Gypsies), and individuals hospitalized with physical and mental disabilities/illnesses. These individuals were systematically murdered through a variety of means such as starvation, excessive work, shooting, lethal injection, and, of course, death by carbon monoxide or cyanide gas (Zyclon-B). The Nazis also persecuted other groups such as Jehovah's Witnesses and homosexuals—persecutions that led to the deaths of thousands.

For the past sixty years, much has been written and discussed about the Holocaust. We hear the outcry of "Never Again!" spoken at remembrances and herald the dawning of international law sparked out of atrocity. And yet, have the lessons of the Holocaust really been learned? It would seem that "Never Again" has turned into "Ever and Ever and Ever Again" regardless of whether one is discussing genocide or other systematic human rights violations practiced during the Holocaust such as torture. So where have we failed, what lessons should we have learned, and how does all of this relate to the current issue of torture and other world events? Although, there are many lessons that can be examined in this article, I'll focus on two: Ideology and International Law.

## The Danger of the Ideological "Greater Good"

The Holocaust kindles images of extraordinary acts of atrocity committed by the Nazis and their collaborators. Unfortunately, one of the most important lessons of the Holocaust is lost if we simply chalk up these horrific acts to the actions of madmen or some notion of evil. Rather,

history teaches us that most vile actions taken by governments and their citizens are for the "greater good" with ideological rationales. Individuals are often motivated to murder, torture, or commit other crimes against humanity not because they are evil but rather because they believe their actions to be honest, honorable, and just.

In 1939, the process of systematic murder began in Nazi Germany and Austria (recently annexed). Six psychiatric hospitals began killing children diagnosed with severe physical disabilities, mental retardation, schizophrenia, alcoholism, epilepsy, and other illnesses. These "useless eaters" not only were deemed to be a drain on the resources of society but also a threat to the genetic stock of the German people. These killings followed years of forced sterilization of "inferiors," a process begun not in Germany but in the United States. Sterilizations, immigration quotas, fitter family contests, a host of social programs, and talks of euthanasia all begun under the guise of creating a more utopian society through the use of eugenics in the U.S.

Eugenics, or racial hygiene as it was known in Germany, was grounded in the idea that mental abilities were just as heritable as physical characteristics. Therefore, the genes for goodness, honesty, intellectual abilities could be selectively breed for in progeny and societies could remove social ills such as "feeble-mindedness," alcoholism, insanity, sloth, and crime by carefully controlling the breeding of those with such characteristics. Toward the end of the 1800s, North Dakota and Michigan passed laws criminalizing marriage to individuals diagnosed with alcoholism, insanity, or tuberculosis. Indiana became the first state



to pass a forced sterilization law in 1907, and the U.S. Supreme Court in 1927 upheld the right of states to forcibly sterilize individuals against their will in *Buck v. Bell*. In the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes, “Three generations of imbeciles are enough” (274 U.S. 200, 1927). Discussions of euthanasia also began. Nobel Prize winner for medicine, Alexis Carrel (inventor of the iron lung), asserted that criminals and the insane could be “humanely and economically disposed of in small euthanasia institutions supplied with proper gases” (p. 319). Dr. Foster Kennedy wrote in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, “I am in favor of euthanasia for those hopeless ones who should never have been born—Nature’s mistakes” (p. 14) and “I believe it is a merciful and kindly thing to relieve that defective—often tortured and convulsed, grotesque and absurd, useless and foolish, and entirely undesirable—of the agony of living” (p. 14).

The Germans applauded the actions of the Eugenics Record Office in the United States and early U.S. legislation. Under the Nazis, the programs of racial hygiene and mutated social Darwinistic ideas were implemented in a fashion that resulted in the sterilization of hundreds of thousands and the deaths of millions. Jews, Roma/Sinti, and psychiatric patients were all viewed as genetically defective and thus, they needed to be alleviated from their suffering. Hospital and camp “selections” conducted by medical doctors was designed to replace “natural selection.” From moving individuals into ghettos (quarantine) to the gas chambers, all tasks were viewed as medical procedures designed to remove “the tumor from the body of Germany.” As such,

the Nazis, from doctors to soldiers, considered their actions honorable and good, despite the repugnant nature of the task itself.

The pull of the greater good is magnified when individuals, communities, and governments feel that their actions will protect their friends, family, traditions, and people from an identified “other” associated with a perceived or real threat/crisis. But does this only happen to misguided or “evil” governments? Certainly, it is easy to find examples from history associated with “evil” governments committing actions based on what we might argue to be flawed ideologies in relation to genocide (e.g., the Cambodia genocide grounded in the ideals of communism and the vision of a renewed Angkor empire fighting the evils of the West) or oppressive prisons (e.g. the use of Gulags against those with “threatening” political ideas in the former Soviet Union). But, what about “good” countries with espoused traditions of fairness and democracy?

Unfortunately, the United States has also been subject to the allure of the “greater good” and engaged in acts of atrocity throughout its history, particularly when threatened. Certainly, a case can be made for both ethnocide and genocide against the First Peoples of the New World early in the founding of the United States. In addition, the U.S. has been complicit in genocidal actions in other arenas around the globe (e.g., in East Timor as part of the fight against communism). During World War II (WWII), the Japanese were interred in relocation camps as part of national security

efforts. Additionally, researchers, particularly in the 1950s, conducted destructive medical experiments on prisoners and soldiers without their knowledge or informed consent for Cold War military purposes. The United States has offered apologies for these actions and for the forced sterilizations of the early 20th century.

Unfortunately, the United States has again fallen into the trap of the greater good when threatened following the attacks of September 11, 2001. Due in part to fear and faulty intelligence, the U.S. engaged in a preemptive war in Iraq. Moreover, the “global war on terror” has opened the door to abuses at Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo Bay, and related sites, as well as the use of torture and extraordinary renditions. These are all actions that would not have been acceptable prior to the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Flight 93 which crashed in Pennsylvania on 9/11. Yet, these actions became acceptable for many and considered to be just and honorable as part of the “global war on terrorism.” Evidence for the acceptability of such practices within the population of the U.S. can be found in the upsurge in the “positive” use of torture in popular television programs such as “Lost” and “24.”

## Problems with International Law

The Holocaust highlighted the need for more comprehensive international law and punishment of those who commit war crimes and crimes against humanity extending beyond national borders. First, international law was designed to end the atmosphere of impunity that existed around the globe. Impunity implies a freedom or exemption from harm, retribution, or justice regardless of the actions taken by an individual. This is imperative otherwise, according to Roth, Bolton, Slaughter, and Wedgwood (1999), an atmosphere of impunity increases the probability of violence. Hitler pointed to the Armenian genocide as an example of impunity in response to genocide. Indeed, he just as easily could have pointed to the destruction of the Hereros in Namibia at the hands of the German military to make a similar case. International law is designed to establish a rule of law, create an atmosphere of justice, stay the hand of vengeance, provide a means of deterrence, and create a historic record (Minow, 1998). These are indeed worthy and lofty goals but they have been selective in their practice and are weakened by passive world response and problems with application.



*Medical experimentation room at Sachsenhausen, a concentration camp north of Berlin.*



*Hartheim Castle was as a psychiatric hospital near Linz, Austria. Over 18,000 psychiatric patients (children and adults) were killed in the gas chambers located in the basement as part of the Nazi “euthanasia” program.*

History has always included wars where the winners determined justice and potential losers feared great harm to themselves and their communities through vengeance. No doubt that the Nazis feared for their safety upon losing the war, not from a tribunal but by angry mobs and governments. However, the Nuremberg Trials were established to bring the leaders of the Nazis and those complicit with the greatest atrocities to justice. In the words of Justice Robert H. Jackson of the U.S. Supreme Court, lead prosecutor at Nuremberg, “we have set up an International Tribunal and have undertaken the burden of participating in a complicated effort to give them fair and dispassionate hearings. That is the best-known protection to any man with a defense worthy of being heard” (Nuremberg Trial Proceedings, vol. 2).

Although the Nuremberg Trials were a bright moment in judicial history, the trials highlight the flaws in the system of international law. First and foremost, the law is used selectively. If the Nazi government had dropped an atomic weapon on a civil-

ian target, they would have been brought to account for such actions. Yet, the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have largely been heralded as unfortunate but necessary attacks to bring the war to an end. This is despite the fact that the Japanese had tried to surrender in the months prior to the bombings—they only requested that their Emperor not be killed. Another example is the disparity of treatment between the Nazi and Japanese medical doctors who engaged in gruesome experimentation during WWII. The Nazi doctors were held accountable at Nuremberg for their actions related to medical experiments conducted at Dachau, Auschwitz, and other concentration camps. The Japanese also engaged in gruesome medical experimentation that involved vivisections, hypothermia studies, infectious disease studies, and traumatic injury studies, and it is thought that some of this experimentation was conducted on U.S. prisoners of war. The extent of Japanese experimentation exceeds that of the Nazis as they conducted experiments not just in a laboratory setting (no known survivors) but also field studies testing dispersal methods throughout rural China of plague, anthrax, and other forms of biochemical weaponry. Yet, despite these crimes against humanity, no one involved in these projects was ever prosecuted. Why? The United States granted the Japanese doctors and military full immunity in exchange for their data. The winners often get to selectively

decide who is or who is not prosecuted under international law.

A second problem with international law is inherent in the wording of the law. The Convention Against Genocide is written in such a way that almost all instances of genocide written about in history from Armenia to Darfur are not technically defined as genocide under international law. For example, one of the issues is the word “intent” and there has to be a clear indication that individuals are not dying as a result of unintended consequences of war, civil war, famine, or displacement. Second, only specific categorizations such as race, ethnicity, or religion are protected under the Genocide Convention. Third, how many of a group must be killed before it becomes classified as a genocide? The United Nations and member states have avoided mandatory intervention in instances of genocide by coyly using the phrase “acts of genocide” to forestall action. The most embarrassing exchanges during the Rwandan genocide were between reporters and Christine Shelly, then a spokesperson for the State Department, in response to queries about the genocide:

CHRISTINE SHELLY: Well, as I think you know, the use of the term “genocide” has a very precise legal meaning, although it’s not strictly a legal determination. There are other factors in there, as well. When—in looking at a situation to make a determination about that—before we begin to use that term—we have to know as much as possible about the facts of the situation and...

CHRISTINE SHELLY: We have every reason to believe that acts of genocide have occurred.

REPORTER: How many acts of genocide does it take to make genocide?

CHRISTINE SHELLY: That’s just not a question that I’m in a position to answer.

REPORTER: Is it true that you have specific guidance not to use the word “genocide” in isolation, but always preface it with these words “acts of”?

CHRISTINE SHELLY: I have guidance which—which—to which I—which I try to use as best as I can. I’m not—I have—there are formulations that we are using that we are trying to be consistent in our use of. I don’t have an absolute categorical pre-



*The medical experimentation block at Auschwitz.*

scription against something, but I have the definitions. I have a phraseology which has been carefully examined and arrived at to... (Frontline, Triumph of Evil, 1999).

There are also significant problems in relation to the application of international law. Bystander effects and moral exclusion play a role in whether a matter even comes to the attention of the international community. This pattern of inaction historically has led to an escalation of atrocity and impunity for those who commit atrocities. Moreover, international law still tends to remain secondary to national law. Human rights abuses are routinely committed within nation-states including nation-states who were original signatories to the Universal Declaration for Human Rights. Additionally, mass violence against civilian populations continues unabated. The UN remains reticent to act against sovereign nations and most nation-states are reticent to complain as their own houses are not completely clean.

The problems associated with international law in terms of selectivity, definition, and application all apply to the current issue of torture. The United Nations Convention Against Torture provides a definition of torture that is problematic (e.g., the problem of defining “severe pain or suffering”) but more importantly, excludes any definition of “cruel, inhuman, or degrading.” This

leaves the international community with a struggle to identify abusive behaviors that rise to the level of international law. It is not enough to be able to “know it when I see it” when making legal distinctions and policy and this has allowed cruel, inhuman, or degrading behavior and indeed torture to continue unfettered. Moreover, the definition applies to a narrow setting and includes the caveat “It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions.” These problems are exacerbated when national law is written to circumvent international law. For example, the Military Commissions Act of 2006 further opened the door to the use of “enhanced interrogation techniques,” provided protections for interrogators retroactively, increased the perception of impunity, and expanded the power of the President.

### Conclusions

Much of what we know about human behavior and atrocity is grounded in research begun as psychologists and others attempted to understand what led one of the most civilized nations in the world, Germany, down a path to the Holocaust. Psychologists understand that we need to be aware of the effect of various factors that lead good people to commit great harm as none of us are immune to these factors. Certainly, the Holocaust has taught us that destructive

ideologies hidden in sheep’s clothing and propelled by fear often lead individuals to commit atrocity. Only in hindsight, do we sometimes become aware of the damage we have caused and consequently, our guilt. Additionally, history following the Holocaust has reinforced the need for the further development of international law. Impunity is currently served by the aspirational but not practical nature of much of international law. Of course, there are many additional factors that play a role in systematic human rights violations such as the effects of the situation on an individual’s behavior, the dangers of propaganda, the role of bystander effects, moral exclusion, the effect of crisis on individuals and their level of fear and prejudice, leadership factors including the problems associated with both charismatic and authoritarian leaders—too many to discuss in this short article. Fortunately, research continues in psychology and the fields of comparative genocide studies and human rights studies are grounded in an examination of the commonalities and differences in various atrocities with an eye towards prevention.

However, it isn’t enough for us as psychologists to be aware of the factors or to research the effects on individual and group behavior. We must also be vigilant to insure that we as individual psychologists and as a profession do not fall into the trap associated

with all of these influences. During the current “global war on terror,” the profession of psychology has found itself embroiled in a debate over psychologist involvement in interrogations at sites such as Guantanamo Bay and elsewhere. These interrogations have been conducted for the “greater good” and within the shifting nature of international law. The Executive Committee of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence (Division 48), Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR), Psychologists for an Ethical APA, withholddues.org, and other groups/individuals have uniformly spoken out against psychologist involvement in such interrogations and called for the closing of Guantanamo, ending the practice of extraordinary renditions, and the restoration of human rights protections to prisoners. These efforts have resulted in the 2006 APA Resolution Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the 2007 APA Reaffirmation of the American Psychological Association Position Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Its Application to Individuals Defined in the United States Code as “Enemy Combatants” (and 2008 Amendments), and the recent Referendum Petition written and spearheaded by Dan Aalbers, Ruth Fallenbaum, and Brad Olson. These are all great achievements and each represents a step in the right direction toward holding psychologists to international human rights standards.

However, our work is not done. Psychologists, particularly those not affiliated with APA, continue to work at Guantanamo assisting with interrogations. I’m sure that they believe that they are making an important contribution to saving the lives of not only potential victims of terrorism but also of the prisoners themselves. The power of the ideology of the “greater good” is incredibly strong. Thus, it is important to understand their perceptions and reach solutions with these goals in mind. Additionally, no Resolution or Referendum written to date corrects or can be expected to correct the flaws in international law. There will always be loopholes written in any APA policy that grounds itself in such law. Therefore, the best solution for psychologists, U.S. citizens, and prisoners is the closing of Guantanamo Bay, the cessation of torture,

the ending of extraordinary renditions, and the restoration of human rights protections to prisoners. This not only serves the function of ending psychologist involvement in abusive interrogations but ironically also reduces the risk of terrorism as Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, extraordinary renditions, and torture have become rallying cries for future terrorists. Kimmel and Stout (2006) have edited a text based on the work of the APA Task Force on the Psychological Effects of Efforts to Prevent Terrorism, which outlines more effective ways to keep us safe in the current global environment.

Finally, I would note that the APA has a long history of addressing issues of human rights and proposing progressive agendas. For example, the APA has addressed issues related to nuclear weapons, the Equal Rights Amendment, homelessness, domestic violence, gay and lesbian rights, etc. However, these have all represented individual initiatives. It is time for the APA to stand up and formalize their interest and concern for human rights. First, the APA Ethics Code should be examined to make it consistent with United Nations Human Rights Conventions and Human Rights should be considered fundamental to the Ethics Code. Second, the APA should establish a standing Committee on Human Rights. The APA as a professional organization would not be alone in the creation of such a committee as organizations such as the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Anthropological Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Association of American Geographers, American Chemical Society, American Educational Research Association, American Mathematical Society, American Physical Society, American Political Science Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Statistical Association, National Academies of Science, and the New York Academy of Sciences all have human rights committees. As recent events in history have shown us, psychology as a profession can no longer afford to remain outside the efforts toward human rights both nationally and internationally, with only a reactive as opposed to proactive response.

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# Nagorno-Karabakh and MHOP's Outreach: Territorial Conflicts as a Post Soviet Legacy

Ani Kalayjian, Fordham University

Driving into the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, one senses the eeriness of a present still living in the rubble of past war-time condition. A stroll through the unpaved streets brings one face-to-face with cows eating out of trash bins, dilapidated homes, and steady unwavering silence.

*Ruins of Shushi*

Fourteen years after cease-fire was declared in this territory, refugees from Baku continue to suffer from severe post-traumatic stress disorder. Since the violent phase of the war ended, various international aid organizations and Armenian organizations provided Karabakh Armenians with some funds to rebuild their ancient homeland; however, little construction is taking place, since people are not as willing to invest in a territory where the future is uncertain. Additionally, the team was told that no psychological rehabilitation had been carried out previously.

The mountainous terrain of Karabakh (termed Artsakh in ancient Armenian), was a historically Armenian land that was designated as part of Azerbaijan under the Soviet Empire. With its steep cliffs, overhanging rock and endemic wildlife, is at the same time both a splendor of the South Caucasus and a region rife with misfortune. After the perestroika movement of the late 1980s, Armenians sought reunification of Armenia with Karabakh, which initially resulted in bitter rivalry and programs. In 1991, full-scale war broke out between the two neighbors until 1994, when the remaining Armenians drove Azeris out of Shushi (historic city) and Stepanakert (capital of Karabakh) and cease-fire was declared.

ATOP, a non-profit humanitarian disaster relief organization of the Association for Dis-

saster and Mass Trauma Studies, spearheaded by myself organized its Mental Health Outreach Program (MHOP) for Karabakh, with the goal of delivering psychological counseling to those impacted by the devastating war. The mission included counseling refugees from Baku (the capital of Azerbaijan) at the Center for Refugees in Shushi and training psychologists at the Conflict Transformation Center in Stepanakert. Additionally, MHOP gathered data from refugees in order to better assess their needs, with the intention of returning and establishing centers to provide them with ongoing psychological support.

MHOP uses the Biopsychosocial and Spiritual Model, with a series of six-steps to accurately assess, identify, explore, and work through trauma. Within the approach includes assessing levels of trauma through sharing, providing empathy and validation in a group setting, finding the positive in difficult situations, and the use of techniques to release negative emotional imprints and calm the body-mind and the spirit. The refugees filled out a stress-reaction questionnaire, from which the team noted that 99% of the refugees interviewed continued to suffer from a severe form of post-traumatic stress disorder. Many of the refugees expressed feelings of grief from losing husbands and sons as well as their homes as a result of the war. Seated in a circle, one by one, participants talked about their experiences, as the others listened attentively and provided

empathy and comfort. One woman expressed to the team her grief in losing her husband, followed later by other family members, and currently suffering from recurring thoughts about losing her only daughter. When asked about positive lessons learned from their experiences, the majority could not think past the negative; however, a few stated that war-time conditions brought an inner strength and resilience that they didn't know existed within them.

Much tension has also been felt as a result of the growing divide between Karabakh Armenians and Armenians from Armenia, which has been further exacerbated by the recent post-election crisis in Armenia. This is considered a 'horizontal violence' when oppressed groups turn the anger, oppression, and frustration on one another as soon as the 'enemy' has left the scene. Despite their points of contention, all of the refugees expressed the belief and the wish that Armenians need to remain united.

The MHOP team explained how the body responds to stress and how physical symptoms, such as high blood pressure, often result on account of holding in stress. The team had the refugees focus on breathing and meditation exercises to release sadness and find inner peace. After the meditation session, many reflected a feeling of tranquility and lightness.

*(continued on page 22)*

(Nagorno-Karabakh, continued from page 21)

The widow who feared losing other loved ones saw vibrant colors and became emotional upon her realization that it was time to take better care of her mental health. Although fourteen years had passed since the end of the war, MHOP was the first to conduct rehabilitation group for the refugees.

MHOP's next stop was the Conflict Transformation Center in the capital city of Stepanakert, where the team administered a training program to psychologists on self-empowerment, assertiveness, anger management, and forgiveness.

Members of the first outreach to Karabakh were Ani Jilozian (ATOP intern) and I (Team Coordinator and Director). The team is seeking funding to conduct a follow-up training and study in the near future. Those interested in sending a donation or getting involved as a volunteer may visit [www.meaningfulworld.com](http://www.meaningfulworld.com) or call (201) 941-2266.



Mental Health Outreach Program (MHOP) Team

*“It isn’t enough to talk about peace,  
one must believe it.  
And it isn’t enough to believe in it,  
one must work for it.”*

– Eleanor Roosevelt



Eleanor Roosevelt speaks to UN, November, 1947.

# Universal Peace Day, August 5, 2008:

## *Share the Vision of Peace*

*Naoko Kimura, Russell Daisey and Judy Kuriansky, Columbia University Teachers College*

"We want to say 'yes' to peace, and 'no' to war" said SuZen, co-founder of Universal Peace Day, at a memorial service held at the grand Riverside Church in Manhattan on the 63rd anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima on August 5th.

The evening event was a spectacular and moving interfaith service and commemoration, consisting of speeches by eminent peace activists and a survivor of the bombing as well as international musicians, poets, dancers, politicians, students and interfaith clergymen and clergywomen.

Universal Peace Day was started 24 years ago as the vision of multidisciplinary artist and graphic designer, SuZen and her organization, Art for The People which invites people of all faiths to share messages of peace through music/song, dance, poetry and speeches. The goal is to connect people around the world to transform the remembrance of the horror of nuclear war into a re-dedication of life.

Started as an event in Central Park, 24 years ago, Universal Peace Day grew into an interfaith peace memorial gathering in 2005 when it partnered with the New York Buddhist Church and Riverside Church, both located in the Morningside Heights/Columbia University neighborhood of Manhattan (<http://universalpeaceday.com/index.html>).

The Humanifesto of Universal Peace Day includes embracing diversity, the practice of compassion and mindfulness, requiring governmental accountability, and increasing corporate funding of peace education.

This interdenominational collaboration was made possible through the strong dedication of Reverend T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki, head Minister of the New York Buddhist Church, along with Reverend Robert Coleman, Minister for Mission and Social Justice of Riverside Church, and Carol Nixon, Director of the Mission and Social Justice Commission of Riverside Church.

The evening started with a Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemoration Ceremony at the

New York Buddhist Church on Riverside Drive at 105th Street. This service included Japanese drumming, Buddhist chanting, messages from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, songs, the presentation of 1000 cranes from the school children of Trinity School and a Candle-lighting and Peace Bell Ceremony at 7:15 p.m., the exact time that the first nuclear bomb was dropped on Hiroshima (7:15 a.m. August 6, Japanese time). This was followed by a Silent Peace Walk uptown on Riverside Drive for fifteen blocks to Riverside Church with attendees holding lit votive candles.

The Interfaith Service continued in the Gothic splendor of Riverside Church with performances by American and Japanese musicians, poets and dancers as well as speeches by New York Congressman Charles B. Rangel and keynote speaker Dr. Robert Thurman, Professor of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies at Columbia University and co-founder of Tibet House. Sacred scriptures were read by Shinto, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Christian, and Buddhist religious leaders. Hiroshima bombing and cancer survivor, Koji Kobayashi, who has come from Japan for this occasion for several years, shared his painful experiences surviving the blast and continuing cancer and pronounced the urgent need for the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

Japanese rock star, Shinji Harada, who also comes yearly from Japan for these ceremonies, performed his peace anthem "Yamato, the Global Harmony." The song whose title literally means "big harmony" was written as a plea for every person to open his/her heart for peace and cooperation among all of the people in the world. Harada was accompanied by virtuoso koto player, Masayao Ishigure. Sean Harada, Shinji's talented young singer/songwriter son, sang his beautiful 9/11 inspired ballad, "Treasure." Shinji then ended his set



*Japanese rock superstar Shinji Harada performing his song about Global Harmony at The Riverside Church.*

with his uplifting peace anthem, "Hiroshima, The Place To Start" which he turned into "New York, Is The Place To Start" to build peace among all people of the world.

Brilliant saxophonist, Lew Tabakin and his bassist, Noriko Ueda performed "Hiroshima Bushi" by Toshiko Akiyoshi and John Coltrane's "Wise One" accompanied by Japanese dancer, Saeko Ichinohe who was swathed in royal blue fabric.

The Peaceniks, comprised of Universal Peace Day co-director Barry Gruber (founder of Band Together Records) and Moogy Klingman (songwriter of hits songs such as Bette Midler's "You Gotta Have Friends") passionately sang their peace anthems "3rd Planet From The Sun" and "We're the People of the World Against War."

Peace composer and performer, Russell Daisey, co-founder of the Stand Up For Peace Project with Dr. Judy Kuriansky, performed a song he wrote especially for the occasion, "Compassion Heals Our World." The song musically echoed the sentiments of Robert Thurman's keynote speech imploring the leaders of our planet "Never Again—How Do We Really Mean It?"

*(continued on page 24)*

# Update on the 2009 Durban Review Conference

Corann Okorodudu

*D48 Representative to APA Council, APA & SPSSI UNINGO Representative*



*(Universal Peace Day, continued from page 23)*

At the event, SuZen initiated a Peal for Peace Bell Project, inviting religious institutions worldwide to ring their bells at the exact moment the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. She rang the bell at the Riverside Church service to remind those gathered that never again should such a horrific tragedy occur. The greater appeal of the project is for all people, regardless of creed, nationality, age, or gender to resonate with one another in the shared goal of peace, symbolized by the ringing of bells.

The Memorial Service ended with the singing of "Amazing Grace" by talented young Japanese pop star, Sayaka Kamizono. The entire congregation joined her singing this hymn. This solemn but uplifting event ended as it had begun with a procession of ministers, performers and guests out of the majestic Riverside Church sanctuary.

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In December 2006, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to convene a conference in 2009 to review progress on the Declaration and Programme of Action of the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism, held in Durban, South Africa. Regional meetings took place between May and September 2008 and the Durban Review Conference is scheduled to be held from April 20 to 24, 2009, using the following slogan: UNITED AGAINST RACISM—DIGNITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. The Durban Review Conference will:

1. Review progress and assess implementation of the 2001 Durban Declaration and Programme of Action by all stakeholders, and assess contemporary manifestations of racism;
2. Assess the effectiveness of the existing Durban follow-up mechanisms and other UN mechanisms dealing with the issue of racism in order to enhance them;
3. Promote the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
4. Identify and share best practices achieved at the national, regional and international levels in the fight against racism; and
5. Identify further concrete measures and initiatives at all levels for combating and eliminating all manifestations of racism in order to foster the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

The review process is complex and has gone without major problems thus far, in spite of concerns about anti-Semitism and the pull-out of Canada. The success of the conference in calling for enhanced government commitment for combating and eliminating racism will depend on the level of participation of all sectors of the international community. The mobilization of civil society and non-governmental organizations is especially important. Input to the Durban Review is being facilitated by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which sent questionnaires to Member States, inter-governmental bodies and UN agencies, and civil society and non-governmental organizations.

## APA's Representation at the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism

I headed the APA Delegation to the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance (WCAR) convened in Durban, South Africa, August 28 to September 8, 2001, a year following APA's initial accreditation as a non-governmental organization at the United Nations. The APA team at the UN in New York brought the conference to APA's attention and the APA Board of Directors approved a delegation of six members to the conference. The Board of Directors also approved an APA Resolution on Racism and Racial Discrimination: A Policy Statement in Support of the Goals of the 2001 World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, developed by the UN/NGO team, members of the APA delegation, and the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs.

WCAR provided a global platform for the voices of a broad diversity of oppressed and marginalized communities to bring forth their issues in difficult dialogues and hotly contested debates. Among the "hot button" issues were: Palestinian self-determination, Zionism as racism, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Colonialism as crimes against humanity, Reparations, and the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Guided by the APA Resolution Against Racism, the APA delegation focused its attention on advocating with government representatives for the inclusion of mental health and psychological language during the drafting of the outcome document of the conference.

When the APA delegation presented its report to the Council of Representatives, due to the negative publicity in the U.S., portraying the conference as dominated by anti-



Semitism, and the fact that the US and Israel walked out, some Council representatives raised concerns. A task force was established to look into the concerns and make recommendations. Following a thorough review, the task force (1) found that neither the APA delegation report nor the WCAR Outcome Document contained anti-Semitic or anti-Jewish content, (2) applauded the significant achievements of the APA Delegation and recommended that their report be received, (3) recommended further resolutions against anti-Semitism, against religious discrimination, and other forms of discriminations, and (4) made recommendations for implementing the APA Delegation's Report and developing policies for the effective preparation of APA Delegations to future conferences. The Task Force Report, the APA Delegation's Report and an annotated version of the WCAR Declaration and Programme of Action are posted on the APA website ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)).

#### APA's Role in the 2009 Durban Review

Until recently, APA's role in the Durban Review Conference has been doubtful. In their end-of-year report to Committee on International Relations in Psychology in January 2008, some members of the current APA team at the UN questioned whether APA should be represented at the 2009 Durban Review Conference, based on information from their networks concluding that anti-Semitism would dominate this conference as it had allegedly dominated the original Durban conference. In my report to CIRP, I pointed out that, although there was some anti-Semitism

at the 2001 WCAR, it did not dominate the conference nor was any anti-Semitism to be found in its Declaration and Programme for Action. Therefore, I recommended that APA consider being represented at the Durban Review Conference. At its meeting in March 2008, CIRP discussed the 2009 Durban Review Conference and issues involved in any potential APA participation. Subsequently, the Chair of CIRP wrote to inform the APA Council of Representatives that at that time there were no plans to send an APA delegation to the Review Conference. However, CIRP requested that staff and the UN/NGO team monitor activities and documents from the ongoing Durban Review preparatory meetings (as it does for many UN conferences) and be prepared to identify mechanisms to contribute to any official UN documents that pertain to racism to offer a behavioral science perspective. CIRP also reiterated APA's educative role in addressing mechanisms for combating racism, discrimination and xenophobia. CIRP affirmed this role and encouraged making materials and documents (such as relevant APA resolutions and research reviews) available to inform any substantive discussion at the Conference (Letter of CIRP Chair to the Council of Representatives in April 2008).

As a result of discussions in the caucuses of Council during the August APA Convention favoring APA's representation at the Durban Review Conference in 2009 and subsequent discussions at the CIRP Fall meeting, CIRP has recommended to the APA Board of Di-

rectors that APA send a delegation to the Durban Review Conference and has offered a process for selecting and preparing the delegation. This recommendation awaits action by the Board of Directors. Meanwhile, with input from APA divisions and various governance units, I have assisted the Office of International Affairs in drafting an APA Report to the Durban Review Conference, which is under review as this article is being submitted. The drafted report makes clear that, although there are remaining challenges, APA has developed a number of policies and practices and an impressive body of psychological research on racism that can contribute important psychological contributions to the Durban Review Conference. This body of work can also be usefully applied and build upon in advancing the elimination of racism and other forms of intolerance at all levels and in all areas of the science and practice of psychology in the United States.

Corann Okorodudu can be contacted at [okorodudu@rowan.edu](mailto:okorodudu@rowan.edu)

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## ***Would you like to show your support for PEACE in a more tangible—and visible—way?***

Order a "Peace is Possible" t-shirt or hat from Julie Levitt by emailing her at [julie.levitt@verizon.net](mailto:julie.levitt@verizon.net).

Donate \$10 (or more if you like) to our Division, and we will send you one of the items as a token of our appreciation.



# Internationalizing Psychology Education

Linda M. Woolf, Webster University

Last September, I was privileged to attend the American Psychological Association's Educational Leadership Conference representing the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence. The goal of this year's program was to explore issues surrounding the internationalization of the psychology curriculum. Speakers addressed the topic from a variety of perspectives ranging from promotion of study abroad programs to the process of internationalizing the curriculum at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to the challenges many international students experience studying in the United States. All of the talks are available online for download at <http://www.apa.org/ed/elc/elc08-media.html>.

I was struck in many ways throughout the weekend by how far ahead of the curve peace psychologists are in the process of internationalization. Most of our research is by its very nature international in focus or in scope. For example, many of us focus our research on issues of war and peace in an international conflict. Others study the trauma resulting from disasters which extends to victims of disasters beyond international borders. Still others study issues such as domestic violence fully aware that violence against women and children represents the number one violation of human rights globally. Finally, yet others examine issues of peaceful co-existence, forgiveness, reconciliation, etc. which also include draws on a wealth of cross-cultural information. Nonetheless, we can always learn and know more as we improve our teaching and research.

For those wanting to know more about internationalizing their courses, several resources are available from the APA. First, the APA Working Group on Internationalizing the Undergraduate Psychology Curriculum: Report and Recommended Learning Outcomes for Internationalizing the Undergraduate Curriculum (2005) is available for download at <http://www.apa.org/ed/pcue/international.pdf>. This resource highlights specific learning outcomes and goals that will assist anyone wanting to internationalize their courses or programs. Second, APA's Task Force on Di-

versity Education Resources has put together annotated bibliographies of books, articles, films, organizations, websites, and other materials related to various diversity topics including international issues. These bibliographies can be accessed at <http://teachpsych.org/diversity/ptde/index.php>. Third, there are several resources related to internationalizing the psychology curriculum available through the Office of Teaching Resources in Psychology (OTRP) sponsored by the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (Division 2). Simply go to the OTRP website (<http://teachpsych.org/otrp/index.php>) and browse both Project Syllabus and Teaching Resources with an eye towards the categories of International Psychology and Diversity. Finally, International Psychology (Division 52) is currently in the process of gathering materials to assist with internationalizing the psychology curriculum through its Curriculum and Training Committee. More information about the Committee can be found on the Div. 52 webpage at <http://www.internationalpsychology.net/home/>.

In relation to peace psychology, the Society's Journal, *Peace & Conflict*, provides any teacher who wants to infuse international content into their courses with an invaluable resource. Each issue includes research and theory from the field of peace psychology both within the United States and abroad. Moreover, the book *Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology for the 21st Century* edited by Dan Christie, Richard Wagner, and Deborah DuNunn Winter is now available for free download at [http://academic.marion.ohio-state.edu/dchristie/Peace Psychology Book.html](http://academic.marion.ohio-state.edu/dchristie/Peace%20Psychology%20Book.html). One of the advantages of using information garnered from research and books related to peace psychology is that we can not only infuse international content into our courses but also provide information that may enable our students to become more socially responsible citizens in an ever changing global community.

Linda M. Woolf can be contacted at [woolfm@webster.edu](mailto:woolfm@webster.edu)



I was struck in many ways throughout the weekend by how far ahead of the curve peace psychologists are in the process of internationalization. Most of our research is by its very nature international in focus or in scope.

# 2008 Peace Psychology Early Career Award

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF PEACE, CONFLICT & 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 six 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 electronically:

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.

Members of the Early Career Award Review Committee are Dan Christie, Kathleen Kostelny, Susan Opatow, and Sylvia Susnjic. All files should be sent Dan Christie, Chair of the Peace Psychology Early Career Award Committee, at (christie.1@osu.edu).

## Deadline

*Applications must be received by 15 December 2008.*



## APA Council of Representatives (COR) Fall 2008 Report

by Division 48 Council Representatives Judy Van Hoorn and Corann Okorodudu

Most of what we do as Council Representatives involves working behind the scenes for hundreds of hours rather than “on the floor” during the two-day Council meetings. This is often the most important way that we represent the division. Our recent activities focus on promoting human rights.

### Changing the Ethics Code

We initiated and drafted a proposed Council Resolution directing and funding the Ethics Committee to clarify Standards 1.02 and 1.03 of the APA Ethics Code so that they can never be interpreted to justify violations of basic human rights. This is a task mandated by Council in August 2005 meeting which has not been completed. In collaboration with other representatives as Movers (initiators) representing diverse constituencies, we drafted the resolution and worked with the Chair of the Ethics Committee to ensure that the plan proposed was feasible. Numerous Council Representatives as well as members of the Board of Directors signed the proposed resolution as “co-sponsors.” In addition to ourselves, movers include: Bill Strickland (Division 19, Military Psychology); Beth Wiggins (Division 41, Law Society); Laurie Wagner (39, Psychoanalysis); Allen Omoto (Division 9, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues); Martha Banks (Division 45, Ethnic Minority Issues); and Jennifer Kelly (Georgia Psychological Association). We plan to bring this resolution to Council for a vote at the winter meeting. The following are the key policy/actions that would be taken:

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs the APA Ethics Committee and the other relevant Boards, Committees and constituencies to move forward expeditiously to recommend language to Council that would resolve the discrepancy between the language of the Introduction and Applicability Section of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards 1.02 and 1.03.

BE IT RESOLVED that the language proposed for Council’s action communicate clearly that Standards 1.02 and 1.03 can never

be interpreted to justify violations of basic human rights. Council suggests the addition of the following text to both Standard 1.02 and 1.03: “This Standard can never be interpreted to justify violations of basic human rights.”

BE IT RESOLVED that this entire process be completed in time for the Ethics Committee to make a formal recommendation to Council in time for the August 2009 meeting and that this recommendation be included in the agenda for that Council meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED that Council demonstrates its resolve to expediting these actions by allocating \$10,500 in funds to support the work of this ad hoc committee, in addition to the funds and time that would be spent in implementing the 2005 Council action.

### Casebook/Commentary on Psychological Ethics and National Security

Since 2005, the Ethics Committee has been charged with providing ethical guidance to psychologists who have been involved in interrogations in settings allegedly involving national security. The Ethics Committee has established a subcommittee to work on an electronic casebook/commentary. We, and three other Council Representatives, have been asked to serve as consultants to this process so that our knowledge of the APA 2006 and 2007 resolutions against torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment can serve as the lens through which to discuss and provide guidance for various vignettes. Certainly, the recent passage of the referendum and the Council of Representatives guidance in its implementation has major implications for this work and, perhaps, for the scope of our participation.

### Advocacy for APA’ Participation in the Durban Review Conference

In December 2006, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to convene a conference in April 2009 to review progress on the Declaration and Programme of Action of the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism, held in Durban, South Africa. The theme of the

Review Conference is: UNITED AGAINST RACISM – DIGNITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. The review process is complex and has gone without major problems thus far, in spite of concerns about anti-Semitism and the pull-out of Canada. The success of the conference in calling for enhanced government commitment for combating and eliminating racism will depend on the level of participation of all sectors of the international community. The mobilization of civil society and non-governmental organizations such as APA is crucial.

APA was represented at the 2001 Durban Conference by a delegation, headed by Corann Okorodudu, which was successful in contributing psychological language to the outcome document of the conference, guided by an APA Resolution Against Racism. The documents and issues of that conference can be found at the APA website ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)) under “Minorities” in the activities of the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs within the Public Interest Directorate. During the meeting of the Council in August, Corann spoke at the Ethnic Minority Caucus about some concerns about anti-Semitism that had been expressed that had derailed the decision about APA’s participation in the 2009 Durban Review Conference. A robust discussion occurred which resulted in support for APA’s participation, in spite of the understandably contentious nature of the issues to be confronted by the conference.

APA is in the process of preparing a report of its activities against racism since the 2001 Outcome Document against Racism. The report will be submitted to the Anti-Discrimination Unit of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in late September 2008 and the APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology will take up the issue of APA’s representation at the Durban Review Conference at the September 2008 APA Consolidated Meetings.

## **Update: Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflicts Residing in the United States**

The Task Force was funded by the Council of Representatives in February, 2008. As Movers (initiators) of the TF, both of us participated in the selection process. The importance and interest in the work of the TF was reflected in the very large number of applicants who submitted their materials and the broad range of experiences and expertise represented. After a lengthy process, seven task force members were selected. The TF had an unofficial meeting at the Convention and began its work. An official meeting is planned for November and the reports will be prepared in 2008. In addition, Task Force members are planning symposia and other venues to communicate their findings. The topic of the Task Force relates directly to the Division's goals. We will continue to support its efforts and plan to report its progress in the next newsletter.

### **Report: August 2008 APA Council Meeting**

**Strategic Planning:** McKinley Marketing, a firm which specializes in working with associations engaged in planning, has been hired to guide APA through its strategic planning process. An initial draft of the mission and vision statements presented to Council in August was not found to be acceptable. During a lunch meeting, Jay Younger, Managing Partner and Senior Consultant from McKinley Marketing, worked with a small group of Council members, including Corann Okorodudu, to draft the following new mission statement for APA which was approved: The mission of the American Psychological Association is to advance the creation, communication, and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives. The small group is continuing to work on a statement of the vision and objectives that will frame the development of the APA Strategic Plan.

**Revision of the International Classification of Diseases:** In important action, Council funded a multi-year project related to the work that the World Health Organization (WHO) has undertaken to revise the mental health section of the International Classification of Diseases and Related Disorders (ICD-10). The money will fund the International

Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) to hire a psychologist consultant, Geoffrey Reed, PhD, former APA Practice Directorate assistant executive director for professional development, and APA's principal representative to WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health system since 1995. Psychologists in the U.S. have long used versions of the DSM, developed by the American Psychiatric Association, which is provided at a significant cost. Currently, many psychologists in the global community use the ICD classification system developed by the World Health Organization instead of the DSM. More insurance companies are increasingly requiring ICD codes instead of DSM codes for reimbursement claims. Psychologist need to play a role in the ICD's revision of its Mental and Behavioural Disorders chapter since this is the diagnostic system used worldwide and is like to increase in use.

**Peace and Social Justice Issues:** The following highlights several task force reports that Council adopted that relate to peace and social justice issues. The full text of all task force reports can be found on the APA website.

**The report of the Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion** received widespread media attention. The Report concludes that, the best scientific evidence published indicates that among adult women who have an unplanned pregnancy the relative risk of mental health problems is no greater if they have a single elective first-trimester abortion than if they deliver that pregnancy. The evidence regarding the relative mental health risks associated with multiple abortions is more equivocal. Positive associations observed between multiple abortions and poorer mental health may be linked to co-occurring risks that predispose a woman to both multiple unwanted pregnancies and mental health problems (p. 4-5).

**The report of the Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents** underscored the importance of moving from a primary focus on risks and negative outcomes to models and research that promote understanding of resilience. To date, work on resilience has vital policy and practice implications, e.g., a review of the research shows the importance of racial socialization as a protective factor. The Task Force concludes that, "(in) order to have a more complete pic-

ture of resilience, psychology needs to develop a new conceptual framework for understanding multiple identities and their influence on functioning and development" (p. 9).

**The report of the Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice with Children and Adolescents**, concluded that mental health needs in these populations are not adequately addressed and, among many recommendations, advocated for the "establishment of a cross disciplinary, multi-agency task force on innovative health care system delivery for evidence base practice for children and adolescents" (p. 83).

**The report of the Task Force on Gender Identity and Gender Variance**, called upon psychologists to provide nondiscriminatory treatment and underscored the need for adequate training as well as more research in this area. At its August meeting, Council also adopted a resolution declaring APA's support for equality for transgender and gender-variant persons.

## **Peace and Education Working Group Report**

*Linden Nelson*

The Working Group collaborated with the Peace Education Action Committee of Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR) to create a colorful brochure "Careers for the Greater Good." The brochure was designed to encourage high school and college students to consider the social and environmental consequences of their career choices. We are now asking Division 48 members to consider the possibility of providing copies of the brochure to career counselors at their local high schools and colleges. A complimentary copy may be requested from the PsySR office, and multiple copies may be ordered for 10 cents each, plus postage. To order, please call the PsySR office at (202) 543-5347. We also welcome donations to PsySR designated for the costs of printing and distributing the brochures.

We are continuing our work to support psychologists in efforts to promote conflict resolution education and programs for social and emotional learning in schools. The Working Group and Action Committee developed

*(Reports continued on page 30)*

(Reports continued from page 29)

a list of Web sites with free lesson plans for grades K – 12 that is now available on the PsySR Web site and linked to the Div. 48 Web site. You may find this list and other resources by clicking on “Peace Education” at [www.psyst.org](http://www.psyst.org).

Under the leadership of Hal Bertilson (HBertilson@uwauper.edu), we will be expanding our efforts to solicit teaching materials on peace, conflict, and violence for college courses. After peer review and approval, these materials will be added to the “Peace Psychology Resource Project” section of the Div. 48 Web site. The materials will also be used in developing a model peace psychology course, a project directed by Dan Christie (christie.1@osu.edu). We recently updated and expanded another resource on the PsySR Web site titled “Graduate Programs in Peace Psychology.”

Working Group and Action Committee members will soon be invited to participate as reviewers for a study of how social psychology textbooks cover the topics of peace and conflict. One objective is to provide information relevant to textbook adoption decisions for social psychology teachers, and a second objective is to offer recommendations to authors and publishers for improving their coverage of peace and conflict topics. Dick Wagner (rwagner@bates.edu) will be coordinating this project.

We communicate with Working Group and Action Committee members with a Yahoo Groups listserv. If you would like to join the listserv in order to participate in our projects and/or to occasionally receive information about peace education resources and events, please contact me at LLNelson@Calpoly.edu.

## Membership Report

Rachel MacNair

Having written not only an introductory college textbook in peace psychology but a book explaining the concepts in a book for middle- and high-school youth, I've long had an interest in popularizing and expanding the field of peace psychology. This is both because of my interest in Peace Studies, which was my major for my Bachelors, but also because many active in Peace Studies are not as familiar as would be ideal with how important psychology is to the field—my Peace Studies major did not list one psychology course, despite having plenty of psychology material involved.

Accordingly, I would like to work at helping psychologists to understand the importance of applying our knowledge to peace, and to work at helping peace studies people understand the importance of using psychology. Work on membership expansion, as I have done for other non-profit organizations, would fit into this interest.

I welcome all ideas from members and potential members on how to bring in new members.

■ Are there conferences of possibly interested people that you are attending, where you could set out brochures if I sent them to you?

■ Are there specific people that might like to receive information?

■ Do you have any kind of creative idea to offer?

■ Please send all suggestions to: Rachel MacNair, [drmacnair@hotmail.com](mailto:drmacnair@hotmail.com), with “Div 48 Membership” in the subject line.

See Spring/Summer 2007 issue, Vol.16-1, for four-color representation of poster.

## Peace Posters Available

Spread the message.  
Give as gifts.

FULL-COLOR, 11" x 17"

\$10 donation for one poster, with shipping & handling included; additional posters \$5 donation each (i.e., 2/\$15; 3/\$20; 4/\$25, etc.)

To order, e-mail:

[julie.levitt@verizon.net](mailto:julie.levitt@verizon.net)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Editor, *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology* Division 48: American Psychological Association

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence, Division 48 of the American Psychological Association, seeks an Editor for its journal, *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*. The principal role of the Journal Editor is to determine the content and character of the Journal through the selection of publishable manuscripts that are consistent with its mission. The Editor works closely with the Division 48 Publications Committee to select appropriate manuscripts for publication, and will endeavor to publish a balance of articles with respect to domestic (U.S.) and global issues of peace, violence, conflict and conflict resolution.

The Editor also appoints associate editors, members of the Editorial Board and a bibliographer / book review editor as needed, in consultation with the Executive Committee of Division 48. The Editor will seek to include a balanced representation of associate editors and members of the editorial boards with respect to both gender and ethnicity.

Specifically, the Editor's publication responsibilities include:

- Receipt of manuscripts voluntarily submitted (average 60-70 per year),
- Solicitation of manuscripts from established researchers/scholars,
- Call for special issues of the journal and appointment of guest editors for such issues as needed,
- Oversee the review of all manuscripts by members of the Editorial Board (including associate editors), consistent with established review procedures,
- Final decisions concerning the status of submitted manuscripts which may include rejection, or resubmission with minor or extensive revision; and,
- Coordination of the publication process including submission of selected articles and book reviews for each journal volume and

careful review of page-proofs for each volume prior to publication.

The Editor also serves as the principle representative from Division 48 to the publisher and will:

- Communicate with the publisher's director of journal publication as needed,
- Periodically review institutional subscriptions, indexes and abstracts with the goal of increasing all three; and,
- Consult with the publisher's communications director to review and refine promotional and marketing materials, specifically leaflets or brochures that advertise the journal.

Finally, the Editor is responsible for the following administrative tasks:

- Annual reports to the APA Publications Committee,
- Semi-annual reports to the Division 48 Executive Committee,
- Review, revise and supervise the long-term growth and development of the journal, in consultation with the Executive and Publications Committee, to ensure the viability of the journal,
- Manage, in consultation with the Division 48 Treasurer, all financial accounts pertaining to journal; and,
- Select and supervise a part-time assistant (if necessary) to assist with correspondence to submitting or solicited authors and editors of other journals.

Editors serve a three-year, renewable term. The Division provides a stipend to support the part-time assistant and related costs associated with the official duties as editors.

Eligible candidates will have prior experience as editors or editorial board members, and will be or will become members of Division 48.

For questions or more information about the position, interested applicants may contact the current editor, Dr. Richard Wagner at [rwagner@bates.edu](mailto:rwagner@bates.edu).

Candidates for the position of editor should submit a letter of interest together with a curriculum vitae or resume that demonstrates prior publishing experience, and names and contact information of three references to Dr. Deborah Fish Ragin, President, Division 48, at [ragind@mail.montclair.edu](mailto:ragind@mail.montclair.edu).

Applications must be mailed no later than December 31, 2008.

## Peace Research Task Force

Division 48 has established a new research committee. The chair is Bill McConochie. Committee members include Dan Christie, Jonathan Corey, Jody Dempsey Dan Mayton, Linden Nelson, and Ethel Tobach. This fall and spring Bill will be spearheading an Internet research project. He envisions questionnaire measures of traits administered via a web site. Professors and students design and load studies, students and other groups go to the site and complete the questionnaires, the data file is downloaded and analyzed by professors, researchers and their students and reports of findings are published on the site for all to read and learn from. Students participating may earn class credit. Final exams will include questions on the findings presented and discussed in class. Papers can also be prepared for journal submission and symposium presentation at conventions, e.g. the annual APA convention. For an example of a web site that provides this sort of system, go to Bill's site, [politicalpsychologyresearch.com](http://politicalpsychologyresearch.com). Visit the Publications page to see study reports (e.g. numbers 8, 11, 17 and 22) and also visit the Help Do Research page to see studies that are loaded and available for groups to take. In particular, Bill is seeking participants for his Brief Humiliation study, Constructive Leadership Aptitude study, and Social Activism study.

Other peace research activities will be developed and implemented in the future. All interested peace researchers from novice to experienced levels are encouraged to join. If you want to get involved, e-mail Bill at [Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com](mailto:Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com) today.

*(Announcements continued on page 32)*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Please Cast Your Apportionment Ballots for Division 48!

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence is proud to serve as Division 48 of APA. We encourage APA members to cast all or some of their ten allotted apportionment votes for APA Division 48 when you receive your ballot. Too often, members throw away their ballot, thinking their votes don't make a difference. In actuality, these votes have helped Division 48 retain its two representatives on the APA Council.

If sufficient votes are cast, Division 48 may be able to gain a third representative, thereby providing us a stronger voice for our concerns at APA. Please support our initiatives by casting apportionment votes for Division 48.

Ballots must be returned by Monday, December 15, 2008.

## Proposed Amendment to Provide a Voting Seat on Council for Each of the Four National Ethnic Minority Psychological Associations

Please vote FOR the ballot initiative that gives voting seats to each of the four national ethnic minority psychological associations: The Asian American Psychological Association, The Association of Black Psychologists, the Latino American Psychological Association, and the Society of Indian Psychologists.

Much has been written on this issue, including in my earlier newsletter articles and spring mailing. The granting of voting privileges to these four national psychological associations is the culmination of a 10 year process of full inclusion of these four groups in the Council of Representatives.

It is important for you to know that the proposed four seats are in addition to the regular council representation apportionment process. That is to say, no division, state, provincial or territorial association would be at risk for losing their seat now or risk losing future seats if this amendment passes and the four seats are added.

Ballots must be returned by Monday, December 15, 2008



## 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 Gruzzkos, Div. 48 Treasurer**  
**7301 Forest Ave, Suite 201**  
**Richmond, VA 23226**

Please identify any such amounts as donations.

Donations of this sort  
are tax-exempt.

Thank you.

## *HUMANIZING OUR FINITUDE*

What may be a simple attitude  
can sometimes grow in magnitude  
and even become a new beatitude  
What can be so deep? Our GRATITUDE.

*Francisco Gomes de Matos*  
*Applied Peace Linguist*  
*IFLAC Brazilian Delegate*



## *Creating Peace With Justice*

### DIV. 48 TOPIC FOR 2009 APA CONVENTION

The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, & Violence: Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association (48) has extended a warm invitation for papers, posters, and symposia on the topic Creating Peace with Justice for the 2009 APA Convention.

Our program will explore innovative solutions to local, regional, national and international institutionalized or structural violence and the building of peaceful societies with justice. We welcome submissions from psychologists and students who have not previously presented with us.

For more information, contact Division 48 Program Chair, Julie Levitt ([Julie.levitt@verizon.net](mailto:Julie.levitt@verizon.net)).

**Division 48 welcomes other APA divisions and outside groups to join with us in developing presentations that address this critical issue.**

#### **SOME OF THE PERSPECTIVES WE'RE ENCOURAGING INCLUDE:**

- Local, national and international systemic violence continues: What can we do to reduce the violence, disregard for basic rights, and injustice in governmental entities?
- How do we build communities, from the local to international level, which can withstand incapacitating conflict and develop mechanisms that encourage peace with justice?
- What are the roles of law enforcement and the judicial system as purveyors of social justice and peace-building?
- How do we combine peace and justice when these concepts may not always seem compatible?
- How do we work with institutional systems, such as those associated with education, social welfare, public policy, the law and the community, to create cultures that support justice and peace-building?
- Immigration, undocumented workers: How do they fit into a global world that transcends borders?
- What other mechanisms should we consider when exploring peace and justice in static systems and those associated with change?
- What are best practices in building activism skills sets?

If you have ideas for creative programming relating to this topic or these perspectives, but have missed the December 1st submission deadline, please contact Julie Levitt at [julie.levitt@verizon.net](mailto:julie.levitt@verizon.net).

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## *Please welcome the following New Members*

If you know any of our new members, please reach out and extend a personal welcome to them.

Thanks for joining our collective effort to bring about peace in the world. Please spread the word to your friends and colleagues and direct them to [www.peacepsychology.org](http://www.peacepsychology.org) to join us. We count on your energy and enthusiasm to participate in Peace Psychology activities.

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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 *Website*

Visit the Division 48 web site at: <http://www.peacepsych.org>

Or you can go to the APA website: <http://www.apa.org/about/division.html>

Scroll down to Division 48, and click on it. Our web site address is at the bottom of that page.

## CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Send your updated email address to Linda Woolf at [woolflm@webster.edu](mailto:woolflm@webster.edu) so that we can insure that you are receiving Society Announcement Messages! Announcements are sent out infrequently but include Voting and Convention information.

Linda M. Woolf, [woolflm@webster.edu](mailto:woolflm@webster.edu)

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

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