

Global Strategy of Nonviolence, For the Children

A program of: The Living Arts Institute, Inc, a 501 (C) (3) Non-Profit



www.GlobalStrategyofNonviolence.org

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May 20, 2014

Dear Mr. McKibben:

Namaste, Salam, Shalom, Pace. You tweeted, “To deal with climate change, we have to mobilize like its World War III.” It is my honor to present a formula for mobilizing.

The Environmental Movement and the Peace Movement have an **“unprecedented opportunity”** to UNITE, NOW, and “mobilize” the people in every country to influence their own government, all at the same time, for the same goal. The obstacles to change are enormous – I call a Behemoth. Therefore something special and different is needed – a David vs. Goliath!

Utilizing Gandhi and King techniques, I recommend a Global Movement of Nonviolence, For the Children (GMofNV), with women leading the way.

The time has come for the movement to be in every village, town, and city, in every country! Therefore, a movement must appeal to people’s emotions. I would humbly, but boldly, like to submit a formula and plan to UNITE the people of the world and all the movements by promoting good will through working together for a commonality for us all, the CHILDREN, that is **ready now**. Women can make it happen! All it needs is one last element to implement it. This is a formal request to help to attain the last element.

[Kumi Naidoo](#), Executive Director of Greenpeace suggested for saving the planet, “Follow in the Footsteps of Martin Luther King Jr.” Gandhi said, “Nonviolence is the greatest force at the disposal of humanity.” Therefore, implement a people movement of nonviolence. A GMofNV is a plan of action!

[Vandana Shiva wrote](#), “Women are leading the paradigm shift to align the economy with ecology.” Also, “When it comes to real solutions to real problems faced by the planet and people, it is the subjugated knowledge and invisible work of women based on co-creation and co-production with nature that will show the way to human survival and well being in the future.” The time has come to UNITE the women! This leads to the last item – leadership.

The new leadership exists right now, but must be courted to come to the forefront to implement a GMofNV. I have evidence that proves that the very rich and the poor will support women leading the way. We must unite to enlist the leaders!

The women leaders recommended to lead the way are the Women Nobel Peace Laureates and in particular, Leymah Gbowee. Ms. Gbowee led the women to stop the war in Liberia using Gandhi and King tactics. To implement a GMofNV, it is proposed that non-governmental women leaders, be it the Nobel Women or other women leaders, lead the way to empower women around the world, as a means to “Reach into Every Household” and enlist people who ordinarily are not involved.

Therefore, a GMofNV is designed for women to be in the FOREFRONT of the environmental movement and peace movement. It is not just for women. It is for everyone, as the Civil Rights movement in the U.S. was for everyone. The mechanisms are in place and the stimulus to implement the plan is prepared. The plan includes the team and the funding. The intricacies are complex, but there is simplicity in setting it in motion. The key is to get it started!

All the movements have already been attempting to unite – World Beyond War, Occupy, Popular Resistance, Campaign Nonviolence, Global Zero, etc. I can recommend whom to enlist to enlist each movement to start a “Chain Reaction.” It is recommended the movements come together to promote the Nobel WOMEN first. The Nobel Women can empower the women to promote nonviolence for the children and the environment.

The movements and the people must unite now. This is a request to speak with you directly about implementing a GMofNV, now, before next year, because once the presidential campaigning in the U.S. begins, the people will not be able to mobilize for at least two years.

A GMofNV is designed to capture and “keep” the attention of the media and the people of the world. I have the marketing strategy, administration, philanthropy, implementation, and follow-up guidelines prepared. A special segment is designed for every local community!

We need a victory! Dr. David Suzuki said America met the challenge of the space race – for all mankind. Now, women, and men, everywhere can break down barriers and meet the challenge for peace and the environment!

Over the past 12 years, I have networked with non-governmental women leaders (see below) from around the world, planting seeds. It is time for the seeds to sprout. Enlist Dr. Jill Stein, David Suzuki, Naomi Klein, etc., to promote the Nobel Women to lead the way!

In conclusion, the world is one step away from mobilizing. To save the environment, the first step is to unite. Both the environmental movement and the peace movement have the same goal – they can UNITE for the safety and well being of the children -- the children now, in the future, and as a metaphor for: the future, change, and helping others.

A GMofNV is **designed to begin right away!** The key is to get the movement started.

The people in every country want their children to grow up in a safe and healthy environment. The environment change is something you can't touch. The children you can touch, now, by setting an example. Therefore, uniting "For the Children" must be first. The children will be the focus as the motivation to mobilize, conflict resolution, and especially for the constructive phase of the Gandhi tactics. At the same time the safety of the earth is promoted.

There is a sleeping giant out there. The sleeping giant is WOMEN. To appeal to the largest audience, the movement must personalize the actions. The opportunity is here now! When the September 20 and 21, be ready to promote a GMofNV and have every movement do the same! This is all predicated on women leaders joining.

There is much more to tell you. Many elements have recently developed therefore the website does not have all the current material.

We have the opportunity to act now! Please contact me as soon as possible to discuss the chain reaction, the proof of support, the stimulus, the full plan, the steps to enlist the women leaders, and **how it can begin immediately**. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peace and Love,

Andre Sheldon

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P.S. I am a man, a person, 63 years old, who believes society can change from a male-dominated society to a partnership society (cultural transformation theory from the Chalice and the Blade by Riane Eisler) and am dedicated to help bring it to fruition.

SUPPORT STATEMENTS

Louise Diamond - Author, Activist

“Andre, Thanks for sending the information on your wonderful project. The children are indeed a unifying force, and women are indeed the active agents of a most great peace. Your GSofNV/Call to Women can enliven the spirit of peace that we so desperately need on the planet in these days.”

Howard Zinn - Author, Activist – (was my confidante)

“Your “Call to Women” is excellent. Well written, clear, strong. No doubt women represent non-violence best”.

Margarita Papandreou - Former 1st lady of Greece, Co-founder of WINPEACE

“This sounds like a positive initiative.” (See letter below)

Gila Svirsky - Co-founder of Coalition for Women for Peace

“I completely agree with your vision and overall approach – to mobilize women to lead the way to peace. This has been core to our peace activism in Israel for almost 20 years.”

Helen Caldicott – Author, World Peace Activist

“I think this is a very good idea.”

Robert Koehler – Columnist, Huffington Post

“Thanks for your great letter and inspiring ideas. I couldn't agree more, regarding women as peace leaders”

QUOTES

Sana Shtasel, Executive Director of Alliance for Middle East Peace (ALLMEP) wrote,
“We must mount a strategic, sustained, global campaign that will support the grassroots peacebuilders in supporting the peace process.”

Ambassador Swanee Hunt, Director, Institute for Inclusive Security, Harvard University
“What difference does difference make? Researchers and policymakers say when women decision-makers are present in critical mass (around 30 percent) they build bridges across political and ethnic divides; provide fresh ideas and perspectives; add deeper understanding of ground-level reality; shift budgets away from guns to education, health, and environment; create a more civil political sphere; and govern with greater transparency and less corruption.”

Arundhati Roy, activist from India, stated, *“Radical change cannot and will not be negotiated by governments; it can only be enforced by people. By the public. A public who can link hands across national borders.”*

Sister Joan Chittister, September 11th, 2004, at the Omega / V Day conference: “Women and Power” said, *“The lives of our children, the protection of millions, the hopes of all humankind, wait again now for women, from opposite cultures, opposite tradition, to step over the line of political hatred to save them.”*

Martin Luther King wrote in Strength to Love, about nonviolence: *“It gives them new self respect. It calls up resources of strength and courage that they did not know they had. Finally, it so stirs the conscience of the opponent that reconciliation becomes a reality.”*

Adil Najam, Boston University, International Relations said: *“If a person with black hair sees a person with red hair, he or she sees someone different, but, if a person with black hair sees a child with red hair, he or she sees a child.”*

Maired Maguire: *“In Northern Ireland, when we had our war, women didn’t normally go out to work for peace, onto the streets and work and build a peace movement. But we knew for the sake of our children and their future, we had to act as well.”*

A Future Without War (AFWW) mission statement: *“Ending the practice of war will require: leaders who embrace the goal of ending war and are motivated to facilitate and guide the process of change, and a critical mass of citizens around the globe who staunchly support such leaders.”* www.AFWW.org By Dr. Judith Hand

Kofi Annan wrote,

“Women, who know the price of conflict so well, are also often better equipped than men to prevent or resolve it. For generations, women have served as peace educators, both in their families and in their societies. They have proved instrumental in building bridges rather than walls. They have been crucial in preserving social order when communities have collapsed.”

Thomas Merton – in Ghandi and the One-Eyed Giant , Chapter One, stated,

“Non-violence heals and restores man’s nature, while giving him a means to restore social order and justice.”

Andre Sheldon says,

“Women and Nonviolence can change the world. The time has come for Nonviolence to be the Doctrine of all Societies!”

UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon wrote,

“Women are a powerful and yet untapped force for peace.”

Columnist William Greider wrote, *“It is the nature of authentic movements to seek large and majestic goals that seem impossible to pedestrian politicians—and, at first, to most citizens. Standing up requires both uncommon courage and severe provocation.”*

Network of leaders informed of a GMofNV

Arundhati Roy	Author and activist from India
Anita Vargas	World March of Women, from Bolivia
Ela Gandhi	Granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi
Margarita Papandreou	Former first lady of Greece
Dr. Helen Caldicott	Author and activist from Australia
Rev. Joan B. Campbell	Chair of Global Peace Initiative of Women (GPIW)
Sister Joan Chittister	Co-chair of GPIW
Eve Ensler	Author and founder of V/Day
Kathe Schaaf	Founder of Gather the Women
Gila Svirsky	Co-founder of Women in Black and Coalition of Women for Peace (CWP)
Regina Birchem	Former International President of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
Susan Shaer	Executive Director of Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND)
Sharon McErlane	Founder of Grandmothers Speak
Wendy Silvers	Founder of Million Mamas Movement
Gloria Hammond-White	Pediatrician, Minister and Anti-Slavery Activist
Swanee Hunt	Director of Women Waging Peace
Medea Benjamin	Co-founder of CODEPINK and Global Exchange
Joan Baez	Activist and entertainer
Dr. Margaret Flowers	Popular Resistance
Ann Smith	Founder of Circle Connections
Dr. Judith Hand	Peace Activist, Visionary
Maired MaGuire	Woman recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize
Leymah Gbowee	Woman recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize
Shirin Ebadi	Woman recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize
Kathy Kelly	Voices for Creative Nonviolence
Kavita Ramdas	Global Fund for Women
Phyllis Bennis,	Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies
Cora Weiss	Hague Appeal for Peace
Neyleen Heyzer,	Former Director of UNIFEM
Riane Eisler	Author and founder of Partnership
Jehan Sadat	From Egypt
Lucy Nussibeh	From Jerusalem
Arun Gandhi	Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi
Rabbi Michael Lerner	Network of Spiritual Progressives
Archbishop Desmond Tutu	Religious leader from South Africa
Mr. Mark Johnson	Former Director, Fellowship of Reconciliation, US
David Swanson	Director, World Beyond War
Noam Chomsky	Professor Emeritus, MIT, Author, Activist
<i>Plus many more!</i>	

Letter from Margarita Papandreou

1-6-08

Dear Andre Sheldon, this sounds like a positive initiative and especially if you line up a group of women who have experience with working for a culture of peace, that is, for non-violent solutions to conflict. I am interested in participating, but I would like to hear more about your plans and strategy. It is not an easy mission. We had one of the largest anti-war movements ever seen prior to the war in Iraq which included not only non-governmental organizations, but many governments and outstanding personalities throughout the world. Despite this, the US Administration went ahead with a war on the Iraqi people. We have to think carefully as to how we can be effective.

I will be waiting eagerly for more information from you. By the way, I am heartened that you are a man. After all, it is still true that men make the decisions on the use of violence to resolve a conflict. Either women's perspectives get injected into the decision making process, or we have to change the mentality of men. Probably both.

Yours in peace and love, Margarita Papandreou, founder of the Center of Research and Action on Peace (KEDE) and co-founder along with Zeynep Oral of WINPEACE, a Greek-Turkish-Cyprus women's peace initiative for peace among our countries.