

Projects and Activities Served by the PJRC

The Peace and Justice Resource Center has played an important, often crucial role in support of a variety of educational and advocacy projects over the years. Here are a few notable examples:

❖ The PJRC has offered assistance to more than 100 **libraries and resource centers** in universities, colleges, schools, and communities around the U.S. For most of the 1990s, the PJRC coordinated the **Resource Center Network** for the Consortium on Peace Research, Education and Development (the largest professional association of its kind, since merged to form the Peace & Justice Studies Association). PJRC leaders organized and facilitated workshops and book tables at annual conferences of COPRED during those years and many PJSA and FOR conferences since.

❖ The PJRC has played a central role in many programs in **schools**, including presenting teacher in-service days and conference workshops. One such endeavor – the Curriculum Development Project, active from 1992 to 1996 – produced a set of thirty-two curriculum units, activities, and resources on *Conflict Education: Personal to Global*, used in hundreds of classrooms around the U.S.

❖ The PJRC organized and hosted the reception and post-showing discussion for the Seattle Film Festival's premier of *A Force More Powerful*. This documentary film, narrated by Ben Kingsley, is a superbly-produced depiction of nonviolence in action around the world. It was broadcast on every public television station in the U.S., and released as a six-part series for use in schools and libraries.

❖ The PJRC co-led many **public forums** at libraries and community centers with a focus on *A Force More Powerful* including a workshop for teachers at Seattle's KCTS studios in support of classroom activities using the series. The PJRC has since assisted thousands of teachers and community leaders make effective use of this valuable resource. We have in addition helped many hundreds of schools and groups acquire copies of the video, DVD, discussion materials, and/or the companion volume to the series. In a related effort, PJRC leaders have developed activities, materials, and resources on **nonviolence** used in hundreds of workshops including 70 weekend and other intensive trainings.

❖ PJRC leaders have contributed to a series of **computer-based educational activities** (2001 to the present), two of which were adopted by the largest critical thinking project in U.S. public education, in use in over 60,000 classrooms across the nation. The most recent one on federal budget priorities has been used by over 700 groups since 2004, with an updated version coming out every few years.

❖ Our *Wall of Hope* exhibit of peace and justice movements and heroes throughout history and in every part of the world, has proved helpful and inspiring for over 650 colleges, conferences, and workshops, often using one of a dozen Wall activities. This 120' exhibit was displayed at the Peace and Justice Studies Association, the Intercollegiate Peace Conference in Canada, Peace Day Seattle, and Youth Gatherings of over 30,000 young people each in New Orleans, Atlanta, and San Antonio.

❖ The PJRC served as the hub of one of the most effective research and outreach efforts in the years leading up to the **UN Decade for Peace** (2001-10, passed by the UN General Assembly in 1998). The PJRC helped hundreds of schools, community groups, churches, government agencies, and national organizations discuss and in many cases endorse the Decade for Peace. In part because of this work, the PJRC's director was chosen to represent the U.S. at international meetings held in India in 1999 in which two dozen leaders from every part of the world met to make plans for the Decade for Peace.

❖ In particular, during that time the PJRC played a major role in helping Seattle and Wash. State become the region of the U.S. with the strongest support for the **UN Decade for Peace** including endorsements from the Seattle City Council, King County Council, Seattle Public Schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, the Ys, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wash. State and 30 other groups. This state-wide effort was launched at a major event at the Seattle Center under the trademark Space Needle.

❖ The PJRC served **university and college programs** in Community Leadership at New York City Community College (1975-79), Consumer Advocacy and Leadership Development at City College and Queens College (1979-82), Peace Studies and Global Studies at Clark University (1987-90), Social Movements at Antioch University (1993-), and has supported course development in Peace Studies, Conflict Transformation, Social Movements, etc. at many other colleges and universities.

❖ The PJRC has served in a similar role with various **citizen organizations and projects**, notably the Health and Peace Task Forces (1976-87), International Resource Center (1990-94), Peace Action (1990-97), Arms Trade Project (1991-95), W. Wash. Fellowship of Reconciliation (1992-present), Curriculum Project (1992-96), Lutheran Peace Fellowship (1994-present), NW Coalition for the Decade for Peace (1997-02), Peace Day Seattle (2001-), Millennium Goals Project (05-09)...

❖ The PJRC has served as a significant **resource for authors** working on a variety of articles and books. Examples include such prominent writers as Jim Douglass, author of *Resistance and Contemplation* and *Dear Gandhi, Now What?* as well as Paul Loeb, author of *Hope in Hard Times*, *Soul of a Citizen*, and a best-selling collection *The Impossible Will Take a Little While*. In the acknowledgments of this last volume – which was named best book of 2004 by the History Channel – Paul credits the PJRC's director for recommending more material used in the book than any other source.

❖ An enduring PJRC activity has been compiling **bibliographies** and **resource guides** and providing research assistance to community leaders, teachers, and journalists on topics of interest in the public arena. Many are updated regularly on such topics as: Leadership Training (from 1975-to the present), Nonviolence (1975-), Health Care (1975-86), Economic Justice (1976-), Hunger & Development (1977-), Community Leadership (1978-), Global Education (1978-), Prescription Drug Policy (1979-82), Budget Priorities (1983- and 2004-), Challenging Racism (1984-), Tools of Peacemaking (1985-) . . .

Others include Social Movements and Peace Heroes (1985-), Nuclear Proliferation (1986-), Peace Studies (1987-), Gender & Nonviolence (1987-), The Arts and Social Change (1988-), International Peacemaking (1988-), Environment (1989-), Iraq, The Middle East (1990-), Global Arms Transfers (1991-), Religion and Social Change (1991-), Children, Families, and Parenting (1994-), Landmines (1994-), Globalization (1999-), Simple Living (1999-), *Shalom!* (2002-), Parents, Youth, and the New Media (2008-), The U.S. and Global Economic Crisis (2008-), The Occupy movement (2010-), The Arab Spring (2010-) . . .

❖ PJRC leaders have written or helped research or write scores of **analyses** and **fact sheets** on a wide variety of public policy issues over the years. Several dozen have appeared in publications from the *Seattle Times* to *NY Newsday*, *Fellowship* magazine to *The Peace Chronicle*, as well as in study packets produced by *Sojourners* magazine and the Fellowship of Reconciliation to name a few.

❖ The PJRC has organized **book tables** for several hundred conferences and school, college, and community events, plus almost a dozen gym-sized **Book Sales** since 1996. All told, libraries, civic groups, schools, and individuals around the U.S. have purchased more than 32,000 books and the PJRC has donated nearly as many to Books to Prisoners, Tribal Schools, and a network of shelters.

For more information, contact the Peace & Justice Resource Center, 1710 11th Ave., Seattle,
WA 98122-2420 ♦ 206.349.2501 ♦ pjrcbooks@hotmail.com ♦ www.pjrcbooks.org