A MORE SECURE WORLD, through PEACEBUILDING

Holland Professional Club
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In our globalized world, how far should our concern extend?











Building Peace

Peacebuilding is the

Long-Term,

Strategic,

Multi-layered,

Nonviolent

Process of developing Just Relationships -- political, economic, and social -among people.



U.S. Militarist Peacemaking

- \$3 Trillion (at least) for Iraq
- U. S. Wars in Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan have proven to be follies, wreaking horror and terror on victim populations while spurring one conflict after another into continuing violence.
 - Instead of stability & peace, U.S. Militarism has generated hostility and escalating instability
- But don't we sometimes need to do something? If not military, what alternatives do we have?



Peace Studies

Systematic analyses of:

- Changing patterns of ethnic & profiteering Wars;
- Dynamics of Conflict -- inciting & propelling factors;
- Interrelatedness of violence, lootable resources, poverty, famine, racism, failing governance;
- Peace Processes -- what works, what fails, & why;
- the complexities of Building Sustainable Peace.

The Breadth of Peacebuilding

- We tend to think of peacebuilding efforts mostly as a state enterprise, a function of governments and top-level diplomacy
- In reality, governmental & diplomatic peace processes, while essential, have no hope of effectiveness without broad and deep foundations of peacebuilding within societies.
- Handicaps of military command & mission
- The major roles of Civil Society & NGOs





- Mature Kenyan Peacebuilding networks were in place & working long before eruption of violence.
- Even before violence was full-blown, CCP drew together and called for non-violence and dialogue.
- CCP partnered with national media to unite for peace and against common enemy --- violence.
- CCP's open invitation to all concerned Kenyans generated Open Forums, Citizens' Agenda for Peace, and broadly inclusive web of actors & programs to halt violence and stimulate inter- group dialogue.
- CCP facilitated high level mediations involving African leaders and Kofi Annan.

Conflict

- The collision of Mutually Incompatible Interests & <u>Needs</u>
- Multiple Truths; competing perceptions of Justice
- Historic Traumas, Perceived Injustices and/or Greed
- Escalating Cycles of Violence
- Fundamentalism and Extremism
- Structural Injustice, Stuctural Violence

Structural Violence

- The injuries, disparities, and deaths caused by systems, institutions, and policies that meet <u>some people's</u> needs & rights at the expense of <u>others'</u> needs & rights.
- Structural Violence, always imposed in the name of stability and order, always breeds reactive violence.
- Discriminatory laws, unequal enforcement of laws, restriction of access to political process or economic sustainability, etc.

Universal Attitudes that Obstruct Reconciliation & Peace

- "Us" vs "Them"
- Blaming & Stereotyping the "Other"
- Sense of Moral Superiority
- Willingness to Gain Advantage and Power while Disadvantaging Others
- Perception by Each Side that they are the Victims

Blind to Other's Pain & Needs Treasured Trauma, Revered Victimization Assumption of Own Innocence

PEACEBUILDING RESPONSES to CONFLICT

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

CONFLICT RESOLUTION OVERT EVIDENCE of CONFLICT

VISIBLE, SURFACE CONFLICT ISSUES:

* POLITICAL POWER

* LAND | * RESOURCES

* EMPLOYMENT * TAXES

ROOT CAUSES of CONFLICT:

* BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

* PERCEPTIONS of INJUSTICE or

INSECURITY * HUMILIATION

* HISTORY of VIOLATION

* HOPELESSNESS *INTOLERANCE

CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION



- NEGATIVE PEACE = the Absence of Overt
 Violence
- POSITIVE PEACE = the Absence of both Overt and Structural Violence
- The Absence of Structural Violence = Political, Economic, & Social <u>JUSTICE</u>

Structural Justice: Privileging First Those Who Are Least Privileged

DISCRIMINATED AGAINST

MOST POOR

OPPRESSED

IMPRISONED

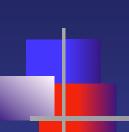
ILL, LEAST ABLE

STRUCTURAL JUSTICE

RICHEST
ENTITLED
ADVANTAGED
MOST POWERFUL
ELITE
GOVERNING

The "Realist's" Power-Oriented Approach to Peace

- "The best defense is strong offense."
- Peace <u>can</u> be imposed by Force/ War, and is maintained by the threat of force.
- "Justice" and "Truth" are defined by whoever controls Power (the State, the Privileged).
- "Security" is more important than, and often substitutes for, the Common Good.



Fundamentals of U.S. Foreign Policy, 1946-2010

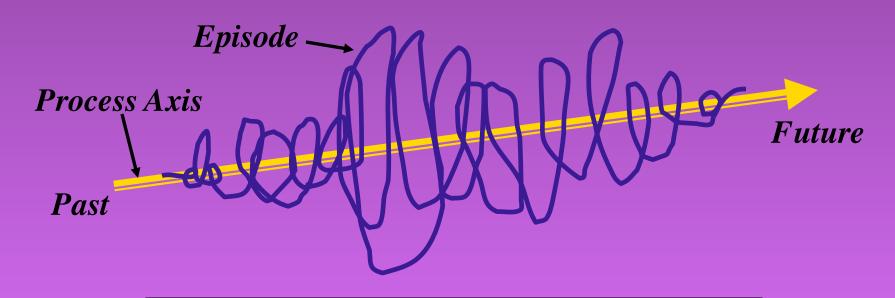
- It is our responsibility to lead, save, and ultimately transform the world;
- The U.S. must maintain a global military presence;
- We must be able to project our military power anywhere; and
- We will intervene with force to counter any existing or anticipated threat.

Sustainable Peace: the Aim of Peacebuilding

- Human Security, Freedom from Violence
- Human Needs: Food & Shelter, Just Relationships, Respect of Everyone's Dignity and Identity, & Opportunity for Self-Determination
- Human Rights: Political, Economic, Social, Religious
- Structural Justice: Fair Distribution of Resources, Freedom from Discrimination, Real Access to Political Process; Economic Sustainability

Peace as Process (not Goal or Accomplishment)

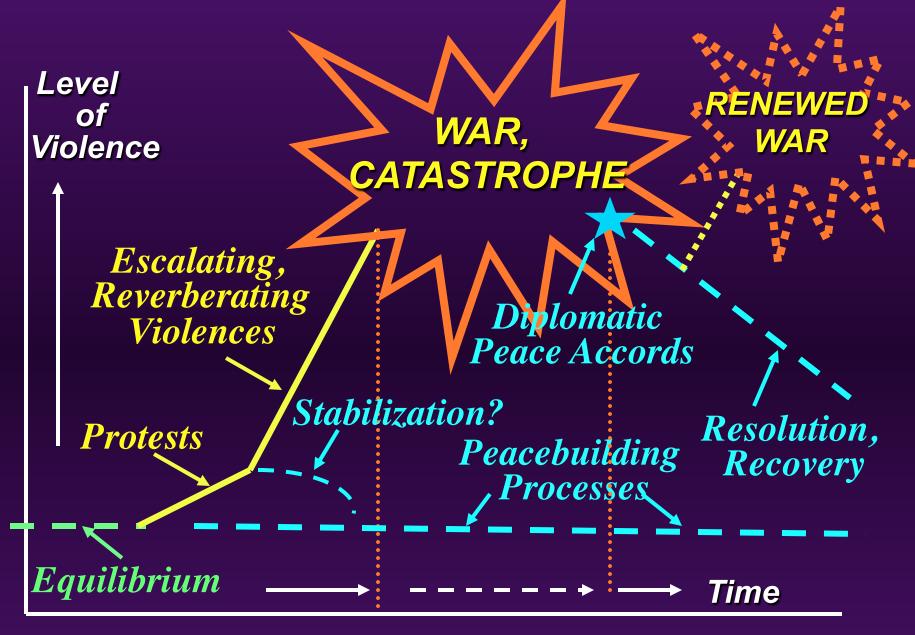
- Circular --- and Linear
- Short-Term Responsive & Long-Term Strategic
- Net Movement Forward, Upward



<u>Platform</u>



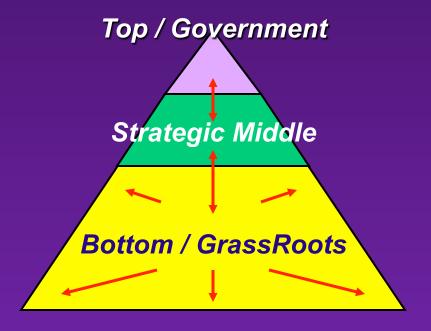
- Nanumbas, land-owners
- Konkombas: migratory farmers
- Elicitive peace process of listening, learning, analyzing, and gaining trusted credibility
- Bridge builders, voices of reason; expanding circles within each group
 - Inclusive process of: * self-reflection,
 - mutuality of understanding,
 - recognition of each others' losses and each side's own guilt.
 - and the mutual perception of the conflict itself as the common enemy.
- 1996 Kumasi Accord on Peace and Reconciliation
- Structural political and economic reforms



CONFLICT & PEACE CURVE

Peace Processes

Top-Down, Bottom-Up, Middle-Out



People must <u>Own</u> their own decisions; real change cannot be imposed from outside.



Peace Processes: Sequence, Layers

- 1. Grassroots & Elicitive PB and Mediation
- 2. Diplomatic Peace Accords (Positions, Needs)
- 3. Cease-Fire; Disarmament, Demobilization
- 4. Structural Reforms (Courts, Police, Laws, etc)
- 5. Culture of Violence ⇒ Culture of Peace
 - * Governing Authority; * Media; * Religion
 - * Social Norms: We/They, Private vs Common Good
- 6. Self-determination, Long-Range Sustainability

U.S. Peacebuilding:

Who will we be to the world -- violent parent, or nurturing mentor? In what will we invest?





- We can pull back from militarism because it conflicts with peacebuilding realities.
- But we should also shrink our dependency on military force because it fails in this mission.

American Responsibilities in Our Globalized World

War & Peace

- Renew adherence to the world norm banning wars of aggression
- 2. Curtail U.S. Militarism
- Initiate and support non-violent responses to conflict and injustice
- 4. Commit resources to environmentconserving policies
- 5. Shift from "our only tool is a hammer" reliance on military actions to diplomacy and strategic, long-term Aid.

American Responsibilities in Our Globalized World: Strategic Foreign Aid

- 1. Resources to relieve suffering & assure human security;
- 2. Develop infrastructure and capacities (education, health, rule of law, services);
- 3. Stimulate domestic economic development;
- 4. Strengthen institutions of governance;
- Invest in selected international & indigenous NGOs.

Enchancing Security through PEACEBUILDING

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