

Fresno Center for Nonviolence 2022

January 2022

Write down your hopes and dream and hide it away to read it another time later this year. See if you are psychic.



Edited by
Richard Gomez.

Dedicated to PEACE and SOCIAL JUSTICE through

SIMPLICITY ~ JUSTICE ~ INCLUSIVENESS ~ NON-INJURY

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Rita Bell



With the start of the new year, the Board thought it would be a clever idea for me to introduce myself. Since July 2021, I have served as the President of the Fresno Center for Nonviolence. Normally, officers serve from January through December. We laugh that my stint started in July because of negotiation with Angela; she agreed to continue as President just until I was free to take over. I first joined the Board in 2015. At the time, I was on the Earth Day Fresno committee. We were looking for a “parent” organization. We had grown into a core group and were committed to managing our responsibilities correctly. Like so many local groups with similar ideologies, the Center agreed to take “Earth Day Fresno” on as a program. I was aware of the Center previously, but once I learned its purpose and principles, I knew these were my people. When I was asked to join the Board, I quickly accepted. I want to take this time to re-print the Basic Principles of contained in our Statement of Purpose. If you have not visited our website, I urge you to review our full Statement: <http://centerfornonviolence.org/wp/about-us/>

I. BASIC PRINCIPLES: To enter affiliation with the Fresno Center for Nonviolence implies a commitment to examining and altering one’s life toward the achievement of these basic goals.

- **Simplicity** — reducing the sheer amount of material resources needed to satisfy our desires, raised as we are in a society which overvalues possessions, pleasure and convenience, and which uses an unconscionable proportion of the planet’s natural wealth. Adopting patterns of production, consumption and reproduction that safeguard the planet’s biological integrity.
- **Justice** — actively looking to create a world where decent living conditions are available to all, and where the decision-making processes, methods of production, distribution of wealth, and accountability to society are fair, giving priority to guaranteeing the basic needs and rights of the most vulnerable.
- **Inclusiveness** — actively looking to understand the situation and point-of-view of others, keeping readiness to ally with other communities-of-interest or -belief that are committed to similar principles. Acting to protect the biological diversity and natural resources that sustain life.
- **Non-injury** — pledging to use methods to reach our ends that do not contradict those ends; acting with compassion and an understanding of shared humanity toward those we oppose and using only those means which do not put others at greater risk than ourselves. Promoting a culture of tolerance, cooperation, and peaceful problem resolution.

On behalf of the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, we wish you an auspicious New Year. This year and last has been a challenge for all of us. There are losses that we will carry with us as we move forward. And there are still so many challenges ahead. Friends, I hope you found rested and renewal of spirit during the holiday season that will provide you with vigor for the coming year. Together we will further the peace and social justice for all.

Wednesday
January 12th
at 3 pm

Stir it, UP!

KFCF
88.1 FM

We begin the new year with our host Josh Shurely and his guest, Fresno City College History Professor Paul Gilmore to talk about human rights, the MLK Jr. commemoration and other related issues. Should be fun. For more information call on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at (559)237-3223 or check our website at www.centerfornonviolence.org

In December we ended the year with your host Richard Gomez talking with Jim Grant of the local Human Rights Coalition. To hear it again go to: <https://soundcloud.com/user-32180141/stiu120821>.

In November, our host was Josh Shurely with his guest from Veterans for Peace, Steve McKeown, Dave Logsdon and Kaitie Considine. They discussed reclaiming the more peaceful term for Veterans Day originally known as Armistice Day. To hear it again go to: <https://soundcloud.com/user-32180141/stiu11021>.