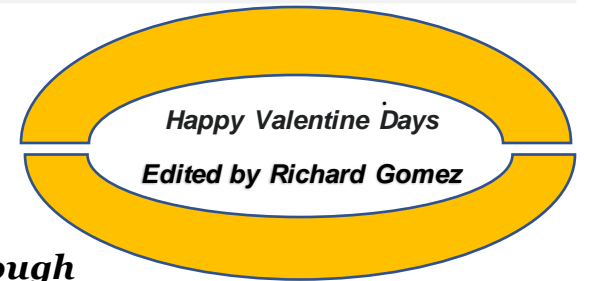


# Fresno Center for Nonviolence 2023

February 2023

If things keep going the way they are going, the planet will be fine. It may take millions of years, but the planet will heal itself but it's the people who are screwed. - George Carlin.



**Dedicated to PEACE and SOCIAL JUSTICE through**

**SIMPLICITY ~ JUSTICE ~ INCLUSIVENESS ~ NON-INJURY**

**1584 N. Van Ness Ave., 93728 - email: [info@centerfornonviolence.org](mailto:info@centerfornonviolence.org) - [www.centerfornonviolence.org](http://www.centerfornonviolence.org) -**

**- (559)237-3223. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FresnoCenterforNonviolence/>**

**To see a more colorful version of our page go to our website.**

## Conspiracy

So what is a conspiracy? The dictionary tells us that a conspiracy con-spir-a-cy [kən'spɪrəsē] is a secret agreement made between two or more people or groups to do something bad or illegal that will harm someone else. Otherwise, they are called "Lone Gunman theory" and yes, we have had so many of them, in fact, maybe as many conspiracies as there are stars in the heavens. Of course, the most interesting plot against conspiracies is that over 95% of them are false, exaggerations, and downright ridiculous. But what about the rest of them.

Of course, conspiracies need not only due to questionable deaths of famous or near famous people. They may include political intrigues like elections or graft and corruptions, shady deals made between public officials and wealthy business interest even putting friends or relatives in positions of powers or wealth. Seems like anything that has two or more people involved could be a conspiracy, but the most important ingredient is that it needs someone or something famous to make the news. Face it, two people getting into a fight over a football game won't get people watching and that is the most important mixture in the pot. If you don't care neither will the media. The interest must be big so that governments entities or TV executives will sell commercials to make a buck or two.

Commissions, committees and investigation are usually called into actions. People of all sorts are running around this and that way to create the phenomenon that they care and want to do something about it. Experts, sexperts, governmental and business executives are being called for their often-ridiculous opinions that amount to nothing important but face time on TV designed mostly to confuse people.

Information comes pouring out like fiery molten volcanic lava slowly moving down the mountain side towards the village but in unequal amounts. You see, all this information, news, is slanted towards protecting the public interest or not the real people in power.

Then Director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover, pushed hard to get then Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren on the Warren Commish to give credence to the government version of the Kenney Assassination- the lone gunman theory. When published, the Warren Commission Report was unable, and still has, to get more than a quarter of the American people to believe it. For the first time on history, Abraham Zapruder's film of the assassination, which had been bought and locked away for no one to see had been forced out of hiding to the American people, yet governmental and media still present the lone gunman theory as the truth. Many people like American columnist, journalist Dorothy Kilgallen died or was killed to continue the theory. Even former President Richard Nixon recorded in the Watergate tapes that people that had been involved with the cover-up that led to his resignation had been involved in the Bay of Pigs and the Kennedy assassination.

Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War under Abraham Lincoln had told friends that the truth would never be known. He feared that the truth would cause the destruction of the Union. He died with that secret but why would any questions needed to be asked? The committee prosecuted and hanged the men besides Booth, and Mrs. Surratt, the home owner where the plot was made. One of her sons, who was involved in the plot, had escaped through Canada to Europe and after a few years arrested as a member of the French Foreign Legion. He was returned to the United States and imprisoned before being pardoned years later. If anyone of that time was asked that who would be responsible for Lincoln's death, I'm sure that most would say the South, who had lost the Civil War. In the following years, the South was punished despite Lincoln's desire before his death that the South should be allowed to return to the Union as quickly and as painlessly as possible. Instead, many in the Republican Party wanted the South to pay for their war crimes. The South was immediately occupied by Northern troops preventing the South from going back to the old slavery ways. Newly freed slave became Senators like Hiram R. Revels of Mississippi and members of Congress like Benjamin S. Turner of Alabama, Robert Carlos De Large, Joseph H. Rainey, Robert B. Elliot of South Carolina, Jefferson F. Long of Georgia, and Josiah T. Walls of Florida. Surely the tides of history had been changed for the better.

By the time of the Presidential election of 1876, the troops had been gone but due to the irregularities of the election, then President Grant, sent Northern troops into the Southern states where the irregularities had existed to make sure that the election was legitimate. Eventually, removal of all Northern troops was an important condition for a resolution that led to someone other than the one who had received the highest vote count to win. This allowed the Jim Crow laws to flourish but that's a conspiracy for another time. -RG



88.1 FM  
KFCF

**Stir it, UP!**

Wednesdays at 3 pm.  
Next Show:  
February 8th

Our radio show in February with Josh Shurley and his guest TBA. For more information call on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at (559) 237-3223 or check our website at [www.centerfornonviolence.org](http://www.centerfornonviolence.org).

In January, just before the Martin L. King jr. Holiday, our host, Joshua Shurley talked with Dr. Jean Kennedy, psychologist, WILPF activist, restorative justice advocate and community organizer. Through the lens of the "beloved community" concept, they disclosed the legacy of Dr. Martin L. King Jr. life and struggle for racial, global, and social justice and how it impacts reverberate through to today. To hear again go to: <https://soundcloud.com/joshua-shurley/stir-it-up-january-11-2023>.

In our December show with our host Josh Shurley spoke with his guest Gerry Condon from Veterans for Peace (VFP) about the U.S. ongoing proxy war with Russia in Ukraine, the threat of further escalation and a possible nuclear exchange and to begin to build peace. To hear again go to: <https://soundcloud.com/joshua-shurley/stir-it-up-dec-14-2022>.