

## Fresno Center for Nonviolence August 2023

Dedicated to PEACE and SOCIAL JUSTICE through SIMPLICITY ~ JUSTICE ~ INCLUSIVENESS ~ NON-INJURY

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New batch of Organic "FAIR-TRADE" French Roast, both regular and Decaf came in recently so it's time to get your caffeine buzz while doing something good for your soul. Every purchase of Coffee, Tea's, Chocolate Bars, or hot chocolate from us to Equal Exchange helps small family farmers from Central and South America, Africa, Asia and places where the struggle to enrich their lives continues.





#### ORGANIC FAIR-TRADE products are:

Organic French Roast ... (Both Regular and Decaf) only \$9.00







WAR MADE INVISIBLE, How America Hides the Human Toll of its Military Machine by Norm Solomon his latest book." Starting from page 18.

"When a limited range of information and world view is repeated endlessly, that's what dominates the media echo chamber. Meanwhile, the power of omission – what's hardly ever mentioned -is huge. Protracted silences can be highly influential.

Key themes, rarely challenged, have continually touted U.S. military might as indispensable for the world. Early in his presidency, Joe Biden was ringing a familiar bell when he declared that America was "ready to lead the world" and "sit at the head of the table."

The militarism that propels U.S. warfare is systemic (In other words, it not just the big toe that's infected; it's the whole body) but the topic of systemic militarization gets little public attention. Ballooning Pentagon budgets are sacrosanct. (In other words, no matter how much hot air is in it; it will never explode) While there can be heated disagreements about how, where and when the U.S. should engage in war, the prerogative of military intervention is scarcely questioned in the mass media. Even when conventional wisdom ends up concluding that a war was unwise, the consequences for journalist who promoted it are essentially nil. Reporters and pundits who enthusiastically supported the Iraq invasion were not impeded in their careers as a result.

Many advanced professionally. In media land, being pro-war means never having to say your sorry. Journalist who has gone with the war program. Are ill positions to throw stones from; their glass houses later on; the same holds true for media outlets.

**OMMISSIONS** – What we don't see and hear – might be the most pernicious message of all. When routinely included in media, some types of images and themes are magnetic, drawing our attention and whatever thoughts go with it. At the opposite pole, what's omitted pushes thoughts away providing tactic cues as to what isn't worth knowing or seriously considering. In media frames, the routine exclusion of people harmed by U.S. warfare conveys that they don't really matter much. Because we rarely see images of their suffering or hear their voices or encounter empathic words about them, the implicit messaging comes through loud and clear. The silence ends speaking at high volume: those people hardly exist. They are others. They are not our concern. They don't particularly matter, while our country is causing their misery. Opponents of war often contend that antiwar sentiment would grow if news media were to clearly show war's devastating effects. To the shame of major U.S. media outlets, such coverage has been sparse to the point of standard journalistic malpractice in relation to American warfare. The impeding factors include self-censorship, desire for career advancement, and concerns for job security amid pressure from nationalism, commercialism and professional conformity.

Contrary to myth, television coverage of bloodshed in Vietnam wasn't a pivotal factor in turning the public against the war. Actually, very little footage of suffering and death got on the air. On the whole, media coverage did little to convey, visually or descriptively, much less viscerally, what war, "was all about."

- Although, I've barely started to read this book, and unfortunately, I have lost it now, but can't help but think that all of this is still going on. War is not what television, or the movies have painted it according to my father who island hopped with Dugout Doug (General Douglas McCarthur) when he was young. How are wars really going down? Ask those who have been in it. I don't know but it's not healthy nor well but for those who will profit on it. RG

# NORMAN SOLOMON HOW AMERICA HIDES THE HUMAN TOLL OF ITS MILITARY MACHINE WAR MADE INVISIBLE

#### **Rest in Power** to our dear friend Ed Castro Jr.

He died on August 15th after this was sent to the **Community Alliance editor** and wasn't included in the newsstand copy.



"Always down for justice, for humanity, for solidarity. Full of kindness and generosity." - Leonie Reeves.

### **88.1 FM KFCF**



## Stir it, UP!

Our next show is Wednesday September 13th at 3pm.



Our next radio show will be with our host Joshua Shurley and his guest Bob McCloskey to talk about issues facing incarcerated. For more information call on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at (559) 237-3223 or check our website at www.centerfornonviolence.org.

Our August radio show our host Joshua Shurley spoke with his guest Gary Butterfield from the San Diego chapter of Veterans for Peace and of the Steering Committee for the National Veterans for Peace Climate Crisis and Militarism Project. They discussed the looming existential threat posed by the intersection of militarism and climate emergency and what can be done about it. To hear again go to: https://on.soundcloud.com/uu7Wj

Our July's radio show with host Joshua Shurley and guest, valley activist Roman Rain Tree, who is also the newest addition to the Fresno Center for Nonviolence's Board of Directors. Roman has led the multi-year effort to rename S-Vally to Yokuts Valley. The politics behind the pushback to this effort, and the ongoing struggle to gain federal tribal recognition for the many indigenous groups in the area. To hear again go to: <a href="https://on.soundcloud.com/kdSBa">https://on.soundcloud.com/kdSBa</a>.