

War is a crime against humanity

So why, in the 21st century, with all our skills, knowledge and resources, are we still waging war?

- ▶ Lack of political will to implement internationally agreed disarmament initiatives.
- ▶ Arms sales fuel tensions, contribute to instability and impoverish recipient countries. On the other hand the multi-billion pound arms industry, its workers and shareholders profit handsomely from war and its consequences.
- ▶ Human rights abuses, often underpinned by British arms, create a climate of alienation. Frustration easily breeds violence which in turn leads to further abuse, which completes the circle of violence.

So what, in the 21st century, with all our skills, knowledge and resources, can we do to make war obsolete?

- ▶ Promote a respect for human rights by example, not by force.
- ▶ Dismantle nuclear weapons and reallocate resources to peace-building, conflict prevention and non-violent diplomacy.
- ▶ Relocate resources from military research (30% in the UK) to non-damaging and life enhancing technologies.
- ▶ Promote a non-military approach to security.
- ▶ Develop a coherent programme of education for peace, in which children and adults alike can discover that preparing to kill strangers or actually killing them is not the route to a better world.

action for peace 1934 - 2009



Students from two primary schools planning the design of a peace mural at PPU offices. The planning of the design followed a series of workshops about peace and war and culminated in the painting of a large mural.

Human security means individual freedom from basic insecurities. Human beings have a right to live with dignity and security, and an obligation to help each other when that security is threatened. All human life is of equal worth and it is not acceptable that human lives become cheap in desperate situations.

If this reflects your vision of the future, work with us to make it possible.

'War is a crime against humanity. I renounce war, and am therefore determined not to support any kind of war. I am also determined to work for the removal of all causes of war.'

Current PPU projects

- ▶ our country-wide white poppy project challenges the beliefs, values and institutions that make war inevitable, and presents an alternative view of security and how to achieve it without violence.
- ▶ our education for peace programme offers a wealth of resources to promote a better understanding of the causes of war - it is not inevitable - and provide an awareness of the many alternative strategies to resolve conflicts nonviolently. War can be prevented.
- ▶ we are campaigning against the growing militarisation of education and society.
- ▶ our print and electronic resources range from CDs - *Martin Luther King*, *Voices for Peace* - through practical books, such as *Saying no to violence: children and peace* and *Co-operative games*, to a wide range of material on our website.



Open Day at PPU's new conscientious objectors resource centre



make a difference
and support our work for peace

I would like to support the PPU

name _____

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I/we would like to **join** the PPU

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