

# Peace News

May/June 2004

In this edition:

For the information, motivation and edification of PPOWP members we present (interspersed with quotes from world leaders, world citizens, thinkers, writers, social pariahs and a car manufacturer - enough to make you encourage your friends, forgive your boss, and hug your kids) the following articles:

1. [Groupthink](#) - courtesy PsySR (USA)
2. [Blaming the Barrel of War, not the Bad Apples & Stanford University's Prison Experiment, 1971](#) - courtesy Coalition for Equity-Restorative Justice (USA)
3. [Illegal Immigrants or Asylum Seekers - UK Press Complaints Commission and Aust. Press Councils](#) - courtesy WARA news (Aust).
4. [War Kills - The Causes of War](#) - Brainstorming a new booklet by PPOWP member Valerie Yule.
5. [Peacefull the Clown to take R.E.A.L.H.O.P.E. to Bethlehem.](#) (Aust)
6. [Call for Applications: CRD Psychosocial Advisor in Uganda.](#)
7. [Last Call for Papers - the Practitioners Research and Scholarship Institute](#) (USA)
8. [US publishers warned over manuscripts from embargoed countries](#) - by Michael Murphy, Director, Governance and Sections, American Sociological Association. (USA)
9. [The Religious Right: George Bush and the Rise of Christian Fascism](#) - introduction to an article by Rev. Rich Lang (USA)
10. [Interesting Recent Articles on Law, Ethics, Psychology, the Media in Australian Journals.](#)
11. [Sydney Coalition for Peace and Justice](#) - contact details.
12. [NOWAR South Australia](#) - National and International Peace Group links.

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- PPOWP is working with Alice Springs resident and PPOWP member Stephen Meredith to have a number of PPOWP posters translated into local languages and reprinted for distribution in Central Australia.
- We remind all our members that PPOWP subs are now due. We hope all our APS members 'ticked the box' for PPOWP membership when returning their APS subs. We invite non-members of the APS to join PPOWP for a one-off fee of \$25.00. This will entitle you to approximately lifelong membership. Post your cheque to us at P.O. Box 38 Flinders Lane Post Office Melbourne 8009. Together we will continue our efforts to educate and ameliorate, offering alternatives to violence. We may not Save the World this year but imagine if we didn't even try...
- PPOWP poster prices have risen slightly (for the first time in years) to a flat rate of \$10 per poster (discounts can be arranged for really large orders). Also we've simplified our postage prices. The latest flyer/order form shortly will be available to print out from the PPOWP website. Don't forget that we still offer 'Peace is Possible' badges and stickers as well as posters and the Wise Ways to Win book.
- Many PPOWP members attend rallies around the country in support of Peace, Reconciliation and Justice. PPOWP groups in each state are equipped with light, easy-to-carry placards sporting the reassuring yellow-and-purple phrase 'Peace is Possible'. If you would welcome the opportunity to march, assemble, or stand in a statement of peaceful vigilance under the banner of PPOWP, please contact your state convener to arrange the loan of a placard. Perhaps some other PPOWP members will be attending too...

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### Convenors/contacts:

**Tasmania:** Christine Wood [christine.wood@utas.edu.au](mailto:christine.wood@utas.edu.au)

**South Australia & N.T.:** Helen Winefield [hwinefield@medicine.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:hwinefield@medicine.adelaide.edu.au)

**Western Australia:** Manita Beskow [Mani1@iinet.net.au](mailto:Mani1@iinet.net.au)

**Queensland:** Don Tugby [dtugby@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dtugby@bigpond.net.au)

**New South Wales:** Spiro Anthony [spiroanthony@ozemail.com.au](mailto:spiroanthony@ozemail.com.au)

**ACT:** Harold Bilboe [habilboe@bigpond.com](mailto:habilboe@bigpond.com)

**Victoria:** Margot Trinder [m.trinder@psychsociety.com.au](mailto:m.trinder@psychsociety.com.au)

If you have any trouble contacting your state convenor please contact PPOWP Administrator Tamsin Whaley at [tnt@gcom.net.au](mailto:tnt@gcom.net.au).

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## 1. Psychologists for Social Responsibility USA tackle 'Groupthink'

The message below describes some resources that would be useful for teaching about "groupthink" at the high school and college levels. The Powerpoint presentation which can be downloaded to either Mac or PC computers is excellent. -Linden Nelson.

Visit [www.psysr.org](http://www.psysr.org) or [view presentation on this website](#).

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

In the past few years we have witnessed numerous instances of faulty group decision making, at the highest levels of government and in grassroots political gatherings. As we know from psychological studies of group behavior, decisions made under threat or driven by anger and fear often lead to questionable actions. In this context, we at Psychologists for Social Responsibility believe that it is vitally necessary to raise public awareness of the "Groupthink Virus."

"Groupthink," the term coined by psychologist Irving Janis, can be defined as the psychological drive for consensus that suppresses disagreement and prevents the full appraisal of alternatives in cohesive decision-making groups. Often reinforced by the heightened perception of threat or danger, symptoms of "groupthink" include: the illusion of invulnerability, collective rationalisation, the belief in inherent morality, stereotyped views of out-groups, direct pressure on dissenters, self-censorship, the illusion of unanimity, and the emergence of self-appointed 'mind-guards'.

Further, from the following list of potential consequences of groupthink, consider how many may apply to the U.S. government's handling of the 'war on terrorism':

- a) incomplete survey of alternatives
- b) incomplete survey of objectives
- c) failure to examine risks of preferred choice
- d) failure to reappraise initially rejected alternatives
- e) poor information search
- f) selective bias in processing information at hand
- g) failure to work out contingency plans
- h) low probability of successful outcome

We at Psychologists for Social Responsibility invite and encourage you to visit, engage, and utilize the following tools and resources newly available on our website: [www.psysr.org](http://www.psysr.org):

- a brief interactive exercise entitled, "Vaccine Against Groupthink"
- a PowerPoint presentation on groupthink for classroom use
- an annotated bibliography of books, journals, websites, and other resources on groupthink

We hope that you will join us in our efforts to confront and prevent groupthink, to inspire spaces for open and honest dialogue, and to encourage careful consideration by citizens of their government's actions and policies.

Please let us know if you find these resources helpful and consider joining PsySR to help support this and similar projects.

Tod Sloan and Anne Anderson, Co-Coordiators  
Psychologists for Social Responsibility  
[www.psysr.org](http://www.psysr.org)  
email: [psysr@psysr.org](mailto:psysr@psysr.org)

Civil disobedience. . . is not our problem. Our problem is civil obedience. Our problem is that numbers of people all over the world have obeyed the dictates of the leaders of their government and have gone to war, and millions have been killed because of this obedience. . Our problem is that people are obedient all over the world in the face of poverty and starvation and stupidity and war and cruelty. Our problem is that people are obedient while the jails are full of petty thieves, and all the while the grand thieves are running the country. That's our problem." --Howard Zinn, "Failure to Quit", p. 45.

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## **2. Blaming the Barrel of War, not the Bad Apples & Stanford University's Prison Experiment, 1971**

***PPOWP says: The following is reproduced verbatim from IPPN, 9 May 2004.***

Philip Zimbardo, [zim@stanford.edu](mailto:zim@stanford.edu), is emeritus professor of psychology at Stanford University ... his Stanford Prison Experiment is found at [www.prisonexp.org](http://www.prisonexp.org).

On Sunday, May 9 2004, the 7th anniversary of the founding of CERJ, he wrote to us as follows:

Hi,

You might be interested in this new essay. Circulate it if you wish ...

Phil

Op Ed Essay  
Boston Globe, Sunday May 9, 2004

### **Blaming the Barrel of War, Not the Bad Apples**

The horrifying photos of young Iraqis abused by American soldiers have shocked the world in their vivid depiction of human degradation, just as did the explosive televised images of the terrorists' destruction of the World Trade Center on September 11th. The "unthinkable" became imaginable in both scenarios. Now we are forced to acknowledge that some of our beloved soldiers have committed barbarous acts of cruelty and sadism. There is a rush to a "person-centered" analysis of human behavior, which blames flawed or pathological individuals for evil and ignores the host of contributing situational factors. Unless we learn the dynamics of "Why," we will never be able to counteract the powerful systemic forces that can transform ordinary people into evil perpetrators.

Those responsible should suffer severe sanctions if found guilty upon careful investigation by an impartial non-military team. However, we must separate guilt from blame. Should these few Army reservists be blamed as the "bad apples" in a good barrel of American soldiers, as our leaders have rushed to characterize them? Or, are they the once-good apples soured and corrupted by an evil barrel? After having studied the psychology of evil for many decades, I argue for the latter situational perspective. In fact, I have been responsible for constructing evil barrels that produced many bad apples.

Like Brigadier General Janis Karpinski, who was in charge of the Iraqi prison at Abu Ghraib, I was once a prison superintendent with no experience or training in corrections. My guards soon began doing terrible things to their prisoners that were comparable to reports of the horrors inflicted on the Iraqi detainees. My guards repeatedly stripped their prisoners naked, hooded them, chained them, denied them food or bedding privileges, put them into solitary confinement, made them clean toilet bowls with their bare hands, and then things got worse. As the boredom of their job increased, they began using the prisoners as their playthings, devising ever more humiliating and degrading games for them to play. Over time, these amusements took a sexual turn, such as having the prisoners simulate sodomy on each other. Once aware of such deviant behavior, I closed down the Stanford prison.

The Stanford Prison Experiment randomly assigned college student volunteers to role-play prisoners and guards. Although everyone knew it was just an experiment, the line between simulation and reality was breached, as it became a psychological prison of incredible intensity. The planned two-week study was terminated after only six days because it was out of control. Good boys chosen for their normality were having emotional breakdowns, as powerless prisoners. Other young men chosen for their mental health and history of positive values eased into the character of sadistic guards inflicting suffering on their fellow students without moral compunction. And those "good guards" who did not personally debase the prisoners failed to confront the worst of their comrades, allowing evil to ripen without challenge.

Human behavior is much more under the control of situational forces than most of us recognize or want to acknowledge. In a novel situation that implicitly gives permission for suspending usual moral values, many of us can be morphed into creatures alien to our usual natures. My research, and that of my social psychological colleagues, has catalogued the conditions for stirring the crucible of human nature in negative directions. Some of the necessary ingredients are: diffusion of responsibility, anonymity, dehumanization, peers who model harmful behavior, bystanders who do not intervene, and a setting of power differentials.

Those situational processes were apparently also operating in that little Iraqi shop of horrors. But in addition, there was secrecy, no accountability, long stressful, and chaotic working conditions, confusing demands from CIA and civilian interrogators, encouragement for "breaking the will" of detainees, and no challenges by bystanders who silently observed the evil in that prison.

We must learn from this tragic event some lessons essential for not repeating it. And we must not permit the authorities (Bush, Rumsfeld, and assorted generals) to deflect the blame and responsibility that they must share for these terrible acts by pointing accusing fingers at those soldiers who went into the Administration's pre-emptive war as proud Americans and return now as disgraced prison guards. The arrogance of power that spawned the "shock and awe" of military

might one short year ago has been humbled by the dismay and disgust over these revelations of abuse. It is time for all Americans to reflect deeply on the justification for continuing the war in Iraq that is killing, maiming, and demeaning our young men and women who have been put in harm's way for spurious reasons. Before more of our youth are corrupted, perhaps the time has come to empty out the vinegar of needless war that has filled that evil barrel.

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### **Simulated Prison in '71 Showed a Fine Line Between `Normal' and `Monster'**

by John Schwartz

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Thursday, May 6, 2004 -- In 1971, researchers at Stanford University created a simulated prison in the basement of the campus psychology building. They randomly assigned 24 students to be either prison guards or prisoners for two weeks.

Within days the "guards" had become swaggering and sadistic, to the point of placing bags over the prisoners' heads, forcing them to strip naked and encouraging them to perform sexual acts.

The landmark Stanford experiment and studies like it give insight into how ordinary people can, under the right circumstances, do horrible things including the mistreatment of prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

What is the distance between "normal" and "monster"? Can anyone become a torturer?

Such questions, explored over the decades by philosophers and social scientists, come up anew whenever shocking cases of abuse burst upon the national consciousness, whether in the interrogation room, the police station or the high school locker room.

Hannah Arendt coined the phrase "banality of evil" to describe the very averageness of the Nazi leader Adolf Eichmann. Social psychologists pursued the question more systematically, conducting experiments that demonstrated the power of situations to determine human behavior.

Dr. Philip G. Zimbardo, a leader of the Stanford prison study, said that while the rest of the world was shocked by the images from Iraq, "I was not surprised that it happened."

"I have exact, parallel pictures of prisoners with bags over their heads," from the 1971 study, he said.

At one point, he said, the guards in the fake prison ordered their prisoners to strip and used a rudimentary sex joke to humiliate them.

Professor Zimbardo ended the experiment the next day, more than a week earlier than planned.

Prisons, where the balance of power is so unequal, tend to be brutal and abusive places unless great effort is made to control the guards' base impulses, he said. At Stanford and in Iraq, he added: "It's not that we put bad apples in a good barrel. We put good apples in a bad barrel. The barrel corrupts anything that it

touches."

To the extent that the Abu Ghraib guards acted, as some have said, at the request of intelligence officers, other studies, performed 40 years ago by Dr. Stanley Milgram, then a psychology professor at Yale, can also offer some explanation, researchers said. In a series of experiments, he told test subjects that they were taking part in a study about teaching through punishment.

The subjects were instructed by a researcher in a white lab coat to deliver electric shocks to another participant, the "student."

Every time the student gave an incorrect answer to a question, the subject was ordered to deliver a shock. The shocks started small but became progressively stronger at the researcher's insistence, with labels on the machine indicating jolts of increasing intensity up to a whopping 450 volts.

The shock machine was a cleverly designed fake, though, and the victims were actors who moaned and wailed. But to the test subjects the experience was all too real.

Most showed anguish as they carried out the instructions. A stunning 65 percent of those taking part obeyed the commands to administer the electric shocks all the way up to the last, potentially lethal switch, marked "XXX."

Dr. Charles B. Strozier, director of the Center on Terrorism and Public Safety at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, said the prison guards in Iraq might feel that the emotions of war and the threat of terrorism gave them permission to dehumanize the prisoners.

"There has been a serious, seismic change in attitude after 9/11 in the country in its attitude about torture," Dr. Strozier said, a shift that is evident in polling and in public debate. In the minds of many Americans, he said, "it's O.K. to torture now, to get information that will save us from terrorism."

Craig W. Haney, a professor of psychology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, who was one of the lead researchers in the Stanford experiment, says prison abuses can be prevented by regular training and discipline, along with outside monitoring.

Without outsiders watching, Professor Haney said, "what's regarded as appropriate treatment can shift over time," so "they don't realize how badly they're behaving."

"If anything," he said, "the smiling faces in those pictures suggest a total loss of perspective, a drift in the standard of humane treatment."

Experiments like those at Stanford and Yale are no longer done, in part because researchers have decided that they involved so much deception and such high levels of stress four of the Stanford prisoners suffered emotional breakdowns that the experiments are unethical.

[CERJ@iqc.org](mailto:CERJ@iqc.org)

[wilmerding@earthlink.net](mailto:wilmerding@earthlink.net)

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John Wilmerding, Convener and List Manager  
Coalition for Equity-Restorative Justice (CERJ)

217 High Street, Brattleboro, VT, USA  
ZIP: 05301-6073 Phone: 1-802-254-2826  
CERJ was founded in New York in May, 1997.

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"Work together to reinvent justice using methods that are fair; that conserve, restore, and even create harmony, equity and good will in society."  
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To join (or leave) the CERJ email list, kindly send me an email message at [wilmerding@earthlink.net](mailto:wilmerding@earthlink.net) or at [cerj@igc.org](mailto:cerj@igc.org). I'll need your first & last name, your email address, and your state, province or country of residence. Thank you! -- John W.  
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### **Correction posted to IPPN**

#### ***PPOWP says - This was posted on IPPN 10 May 2004.***

My Apologies ... the authors of 'Functions of Varied Experience' were:

Fiske, Donald W.; and Maddi, Salvatore R.

The title of the Zimbardo book that I had read was 'Influencing Attitudes and Changing Behavior':

Zimbardo, P. G., and Ebbesen, E. B. (1969). Influencing attitudes and changing behavior. Reading, MA: Addison Wesley Publishing Co.

John Wilmerding

FORUM IPPN.

WEB PAGE : [www.geocities.com/peacepract](http://www.geocities.com/peacepract)

A candle by the life

<http://people.delphi.com/andybeals/thankyou.htm>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ippn/files/fondo%20negro%20y%20velas%20violetas.gif>

United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) presented Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR) with one of their Blue Ribbon Awards for the International Peace Practitioners' Network.

"We hope continue to expand the IPPN and deepen the understanding and contacts we are building among us, we will be contributing to building cultures of peace around the world--both locally and globally."

Information Listowners: Joanie Connors - [jconnors@comp.uark.edu](mailto:jconnors@comp.uark.edu), Cesar Gayoso - [cgayoso@yahoo.com](mailto:cgayoso@yahoo.com).

To Post a message, send it to: [ippn@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ippn@yahoogroups.com)

To subscribe, send a blank message to: [ippn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ippn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

and to unsubscribe : [ippn-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ippn-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Shalom!

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### 3. Making complaints to the Australian Press Council

(item from WARA news)

#### **The UK Press Complaints Commission issued guidelines in October regarding use of the term "illegal immigrants"**

"Over the past few years, the Commission has received increasing numbers of complaints – principally concerning discrimination – about the coverage of issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers.

The Commission is concerned that editors should ensure that their journalists covering these issues are mindful of the problems that can occur and take care to avoid misleading or distorted terminology. By way of example, as an "asylum seeker" is someone currently seeking refugee status or humanitarian protection, there can be no such thing in law as an "illegal asylum seeker". A "refugee" is someone who has fled their country in fear of their life, and may have been granted asylum under the 1951 Refugee Convention or someone who otherwise qualifies for Humanitarian Protection, Discretionary Leave or has been granted Exceptional Leave to Remain in the country. An asylum seeker can only become an "illegal immigrant" if he or she remains in the UK after having failed to respond to a removal notice.

Those groups set up to support and advocate on behalf of refugees and asylum seekers can provide further clarification to journalists if required."

The Australian Press Council has been asked that they consider adopting similar guidelines.

In response, they note the action taken by UK Press Council, but there are not enough complaints about particular examples of the Australian press misrepresenting the bona fides of asylum seekers or refugees. They will review their position if they receive specific complaints.

They can be contacted on:

Australian Press Council Policy Development, Suite 10.02, 117 York St Sydney, email [2000info@presscouncil.org.au](mailto:2000info@presscouncil.org.au)

If you see an article or terminology that alarms (like calling asylum seekers 'illegals'), raise the issue with the newspaper concerned, await their reply, and if unreasonable raise matter with Press Council. The Press Council wants complaints made on their pro forma (from their website: [www.presscouncil.org.au/pcs/site/complain.html](http://www.presscouncil.org.au/pcs/site/complain.html)). You'll need a copy of the offending article.

The West have acknowledged as valid concerns about the term "illegals". This will be formally considered by their "style committee"; in the meantime they've instructed journos not to use it (apart from Letters to the Editor)

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### 4. War Kills - The Causes of War

PPOWP member Valerie Yule has been brainstorming a booklet that could be a pocket-sized emotional vaccination against tendencies to warmongering. She considers such topics and ideas as the history of wars and their results; can wars cease?; jingoisms across the world and across the ages; what is the effect of war on the land, the mind, the human body?

"There is so much dangerous ignorance around among young and old, and on all sides.

A booklet for everyone all over the world, in every language of the world. If you know of anything already like it, let me know.

WAR KILLS  
THE CAUSES OF WAR

Non-copyright, non-intellectual property, everyone can write a version of it, free to use anything that is in any other version. Each version is identified by date and place and number of pages (so people will have some idea of how to use it.).

Source can be identified so that others can get copies, but it need not be.



Length can vary, but the standard versions would be only a few pages, cheap and mass-produceable. There can also be big tomes, full of research. They should go round the internet on mailing lists and chatrooms. They should be downloadable from the Internet...

They would be available at all demonstrations and protests, put in libraries if possible, all schools that study wars in their syllabus should have copies in that syllabus. Here are no classroom 'activities' such as crosswords with clues about airmen falling into the sea. Versions can be written for any level of education but the basic one should be readable by a child of ten (a critical age, and about the reading age of the average adult.

Every official in the UN and every country should have a copy in their language. Everyone involved in any industry to do with war - including the media and entertainment - should have copies..."

**For the full text of Valerie's initial brainstorm, please email Valerie at [vyule@labyrinth.net.au](mailto:vyule@labyrinth.net.au) or National Convenor Susie Burke at [s.burke@psychsociety.com.au](mailto:s.burke@psychsociety.com.au).**

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"The greatest threat to our world and its peace comes from those who want war, who prepare for it, and who, by holding out vague promises of future peace or by instilling fear of foreign aggression, try to make us accomplices to their plans."-- Hermann Hesse.

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## **5. Peacefull the Clown to take R.E.A.L.H.O.P.E. to Bethlehem**

The Borderlands and Augustine Cooperative are seeking sponsorship partners to fund the R.E.A.L. H.O.P.E. project in the Middle East. This program is a unique values based education program. The program is an acronym for: responsibility, empathy, awareness, love, honesty, oneness, peace and enjoyment. The program is delivered by Susan Carew (aka Peacefull the clown) and is comprised of accelerated learning techniques. A slideshow of the program can be viewed online at: [www.worldpeacefull.com](http://www.worldpeacefull.com) (refer Realhope slideshow).

The Hope Flowers school is located in Bethlehem on the West Bank. It is a Palestinian/Christian school dedicated to peace and democracy and is independent. The Principal of the school has requested that the R.E.A.L. H.O.P.E. program be run in their school (September 2004) refer [www.hope-flowers.org](http://www.hope-flowers.org) for more information.

The Borderlands and Augustine Cooperative are dedicated to enhancing community through education, participation, ecology and personal development to enable integrative and engaged living. The Augustine Centre is a Non-Profit Organisation.

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"The evil that is in the world always comes of ignorance, and good intentions may do as much harm as malevolence, if they lack understanding. On the whole, men are more good than bad; that, however, isn't the real point. But they are more or less ignorant, and it is this that we call vice or virtue; the most incorrigible vice being that of an ignorance that fancies it knows everything and therefore claims for itself the right to kill." - Albert Camus, The Plague.

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## 6. CRD Psychosocial Advisor - Applications called for.

Job number: 2004-240 Posted date: Apr. 27, 2004

**Title:** CRD Psychosocial Advisor Type of work: Program Management

**Location:** Uganda (Kampala) Duration: 2 years

**Introduction:** The International Rescue Committee seeks a CRD Psychosocial Advisor for its Uganda.

**Responsibilities:** The Psychosocial Advisor will be based in the IRC Kampala office but will travel extensively to consortium member psychosocial project sites. He or she will also attend key psychosocial meetings in Kampala and the field, as well as in the sub-region in an effort to gather best practices and lessons learned for use in Uganda. While the Psychosocial Advisor will not directly supervise consortium psychosocial activities, he or she will be expected to develop professional, collegial relations with consortium staff and influence technical decisions on the development and implementation of psychosocial activities and will be responsible for the following: Managing quarterly psychosocial project reviews for USAID and all consortium members, including review of implementation to date, setting of targets for implementation for the next quarter, review of monitoring and evaluation plans, and agreement on recommended program changes; Ensuring compliance with USAID annual plans in the area of psychosocial programming; Report to the CRD Chief of Party, with regular contact with USAID technical staff and RFA consortium directors; Serve as the sector Champion for the CRD consortium; Oversee the psychosocial coordination unit, ensuring common approaches and joint activities within the consortium agencies; Work closely with consortium members through the coordination units to identify and monitor targets in compliance with M&E plan, maintain and facilitate joint operational plans, and develop or refine methodologies in respective programming or operational sectors; Together with coordination unit members, establish, maintain and track use of a common inter-agency package with standardized tools, procedures, and resource materials; Guide or facilitate the design and implementation of inter-agency program baseline survey, mid-term and final evaluations, and other assessments or diagnostic studies; Ensure implementation of agreed reporting schedule/structure, prepare timely technical reports that present lessons learnt and best practices, as well as relevant quantitative data from the respective sector; Review agency technical performance, identify technical strengths and weaknesses in consortium members' technical capacities and, when needed, formulate terms of reference for technical assistance, mobilize expertise within and outside of the consortium, which may include the development and implementation of technical training activities, and documentation of outcomes; Contribute to general capacity-building strategy for targeted service providers and other local partners; Liaise with district and central government and other USAID-funded initiatives to ensure coordination in program implementation, sharing of information and lessons learned, conducting research, and collection of data; Lead coordination unit to formulate and disseminate lessons learned and best practices, facilitate staff exchanges, collect and disseminate resource materials, recruit technical staff, and establish, maintain and track use of standardized tools and procedures; Consult and involve consortium members' headquarters-based technical advisors and specialists in the review of and participation in CRD activities, in consultation with COP and consortium directors; Remain up-to-date with latest methodologies, best practices, and donor requirements in the respective technical sector; Assist the Chief of Party with the compilation and preparation of the CRD quarterly narrative report to USAID; Play a leadership role in key coordination and advocacy mechanisms aimed at strengthening psychosocial support programming and promoting the goals of the program.

**Requirements:** Advanced degree, preferably in social work/sciences or psychology; Experience in working with war-affected children, adolescents, and adults; Knowledge and understanding of child and adolescent development, impacts of trauma, and culturally competent interventions; Experience with program development and management, particularly in an African context; Past experience working with international donors on development programs, particularly civil society programs; Familiarity with USAID regulations; Ability to work in challenging collaborative

partnerships and liaise with high level governmental, non-governmental and military officials; Experience in developing training materials and conducting training; Excellent verbal and written communication skills including strong computer competency; Ability to work and be flexible under difficult circumstances in a stressful environment with security risks; Ability to work in partnership with team members, partner agencies and community members of both the international and national communities; Ability to think and understand systemically and realize the implications of interventions on multiple program levels, within a context of complex political, social and economic systems; Ability to provide leadership and effectively demonstrate problem definition and problem-solving skills.

We request that all applications be completed on line at [www.ircjobs.org](http://www.ircjobs.org). Please note that IRC does not set closing dates/deadline dates for applications, recruitment is ongoing until the position is filled. The IRC reviews all applications and you will be contacted directly if you are selected as a candidate.

Recruiter: Carrie Schildroth, [carrie@theIRC.org](mailto:carrie@theIRC.org)

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## 7. Last Call For Papers!

**The Practitioners Research and Scholarship Institute (PRASI)** is in the final stages of compiling an Anthology of works by and about conflict resolution practitioners and thinkers of color, as well as all others whose voices have been marginalized by politics of knowledge. Specifically, we are looking for the following:

- Theoretical Papers Relating to Multi-Culturalism -- Overviews of conflict resolution work in particular.
- Communities and Cultures -- Personal accounts of professional experience: how it has been for practitioners of color to enter and work in the field.
- Case Histories -- Overlooked writings from the past by thinkers of color that lay a theoretical base of wisdom about peacemaking and conflict resolution.
- Final selections will be made in August, 2004. Send submissions, whether completed or in draft, as soon as possible, no later than July 15.

PRASI is dedicated to supporting practitioners to write about their learnings. If you are thinking a paper but having difficulty putting it on paper, send us a message letting us know what you'd like to say and what help you need. We'll be happy to work with you. Interviews and other oral accounts are also welcome. If you know practitioners whose experience and thoughts you'd like to see on paper, put us in touch with them.

Contact: S.Y. Bowland - [sybow@aol.com](mailto:sybow@aol.com) and/or Beth Roy - [broy@igc.org](mailto:broy@igc.org)

Practitioners Research and Scholarship Institute: P. R. A. S. I.

7365 Old National Highway - Suite B.

Riverdale, GA 30296

770-997-2223 (WS) 770-997-8949 (f)

Email: [TPRASI@aol.com](mailto:TPRASI@aol.com)

Website: [www.crinfo.org/prasi](http://www.crinfo.org/prasi)

[CERJ@igc.org](mailto:CERJ@igc.org)      [wilmerding@earthlink.net](mailto:wilmerding@earthlink.net)

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## 8.US Publishers warned over manuscripts from embargoed nations - from the American Sociological Association.

"Section Members:

I am forwarding this message from ASA to Section Chairs for your information.  
I have heard from one section member indicating this new Bush administration directive may affect them.-Marlese  
Editors of ASA Section Newsletters,

If you have not already heard about this from another source you probably will be very soon. The Bush administration has recently warned publishers that they may face serious legal consequences if they edit manuscripts from "disfavored" nations, including Iran, Cuba, North Korea, and Sudan.

In a series of letters, the Treasury Department has warned that anyone who publishes material from a country under a trade embargo is trading with an enemy of the United States. Publishers are prohibited from editing manuscripts from embargoed countries, including even simple editing to correct grammar or spelling. Violators could be subject to fines of \$500,000 and 10 years in jail. Publishers may apply for a license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) to edit papers from embargoed countries.

As you can imagine, many see this as an attack on scholarship and freedom of expression. We are working with ASA Legal Counsel as well as other professional societies and publishers to learn more about this situation and we will keep you informed. In the meantime, if your section is considering publishing any such materials in your newsletters or in any other form, please let us know.

Michael Murphy  
Director, Governance and Sections  
American Sociological Association  
1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005  
Website: [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) "

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If any question why we died, tell them, because our fathers lied. - Rudyard  
Kipling

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## 9. The Religious Right: George Bush and the Rise of Christian Fascism

By Rev. Rich Lang, March 8 2004.

*Here is a long article written and presented to a large group in Seattle by the minister of a well-known Methodist church. It is alarming and worth reading through. [For the full text of this article please email Tamsin Whaley at [tnt@gcom.net.au](mailto:tnt@gcom.net.au)]*

### **The Imperial Presidency**

The men who wrote the Constitution of the United States knew that if power accrued into the hands of an elite the experiment of democracy (power spread out into the realm of the people) would be over. So they created a system of checks and balances which blocked access to any one person, or any one special interest or elite, gaining too much power over others. Thus our executive, legislative and judicial branches of government "balanced" each other. The media was yet another "check" on the accrual of too much power, as was the Bill of Rights, and to some extent the Church (or churches). The system wasn't perfect but it kept alive the possibility of true democracy. It kept alive the dream that one day "we the people" could live in a peaceful commonwealth where every person has what they need to survive and thrive.

That dream died in December 2000 when the checks and balances of our Constitution collapsed and George Bush was inserted into the Presidency of the United States. September 11, 2001

furthered the atrophying of democracy, handing the country into the hands of an emerging Corporate (and I say Christian) Fascism.

Fascism meaning the collapse of perse spheres of power into one. Since that time we have witnessed, and have been unable to prevent, the emergence of an Imperial Presidency that has the unrestricted power to declare war against any country it chooses. The Imperial Presidency has brought to an end the Constitutional mandate that 'ONLY CONGRESS' has the authority to declare war. It has further weakened international law and undermined the potential of the United Nations to spread democracy throughout the earth.

...

Ominous signs are all around us concerning the accrual of power into the hands of the Presidency. If Mr. Bush stays in office I think our future will continue to witness shrinking political rights, financial collapse and endless war. Part of the power and seduction of this administration emerges from its diabolical manipulation of Christian rhetoric.

I want to flesh out the ideology of the Christian Fascism that Mr. Bush articulates. It is a form of Christianity that is the mirror opposite of what Jesus embodied. It is, indeed, the materialization of the spirit of antichrist: a perversion of Christian faith and practice.

Rev. Rich Lang is pastor of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Seattle, Washington

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"My idea of a just society is a society in which it is safe to be unpopular." - Adlai Stevenson.

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## 10. Interesting Recent Articles on Law, Ethics, Psychology, the Media in Australian Journals

Burnside, Julian. (Barrister)

### **Ethics and the outsider.**

Res Publica v.12 no.2 2003: 1-6

This article considers some of the human rights issues raised by our treatment of asylum seekers, and claims this treatment poses the ultimate ethical dilemma - a conflict between the laws of the state and the dictates of conscience. The author discusses Australia's equivocal attitude to human rights, asylum seekers and human rights, indefinite detention of asylum seekers, conditions in detention, deportations, international condemnation of Australia's detention regime, and the obligations of citizens in a diseased state.

Larking, Emma. (Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, University of Melbourne, Vic 3010)

### **Please consider.**

Res Publica v.12 no.2 2003: 7-12

Members of liberal states do have global justice obligations, the author argues. She discusses four common arguments that oppose this: that sovereign states are responsible only for the welfare of their own citizens; that social justice obligations arise only from the cooperative relationship between citizen and state; that sovereign autonomy is a fundamental good; and that only those who have a right to participate in making law are entitled to have their interests taken into account; and, considers the implications of depriving non-citizens such as asylum seekers of basic rights.

### ***Australian Mosaic***

Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia, FECCA House, 1/4 Phipps Close, Deakin ACT 2600. Internet [www.fecca.org.au](http://www.fecca.org.au)

Burns, Lynette Sheridan. (Associate Professor, Journalism, University of Western Sydney, Locked Bag 1797, Penrith South, DC NSW 1797)

**There's a name for people like you ...**

Australian Mosaic v.5 no.1 2004: 3-5, ill

Ethnic and cultural stereotypes that are so commonly seen in the mass media originate in our communities as prejudice. The author considers the role of journalism and the media, the perpetuation of 'us and them' divisions, and the way this affects public attitudes.

Castillo, Antonio. (School of Communication Design and Media, University of Western Sydney)

**They shall not pass: cultural diversity in Australian newsrooms.**

Australian Mosaic v.5 no.1 2004: 16-17

In terms of representation and diversity in its workforce, the Australian mass media is still living behind a white picket fence, the author argues. He suggests that this is linked with the lack of ethnic diversity in its reporting. Interviews with journalists from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are included discussing their experiences.

Luckman, Susan. (Lecturer, School of Communication, Information and New Media, University of South Australia)

**People like that: images of multiculturalism in the media.**

Australian Mosaic v.5 no.1 2004: 24-26

The mass media does not represent Australia's racial and cultural diversity, the author says, and this has significant individual and community ramifications. She considers this lack of representation and misrepresentation in relation to stereotyping of Muslims and other cultures.

Huijser, Henk. (Associate Lecturer, Creative Industries Faculty, Queensland University of Technology)

**Internet hate: exploring the limits of free speech.**

Australian Mosaic v.5 no.1 2004: 27-28, ill

The ability of almost anyone to publish on the Internet is one of its major strengths and weaknesses, the author argues, and it has made possible a proliferation of racial hate sites. He examines the impact of Internet hate and what can be done to combat it.

Biggins, Barbara; Wright, Pamela. (Honorary CEO (1), Development Officer (2), Young Media Australia)

**Children's media: marketing pressures and media portrayals.**

Australian Mosaic v.5 no.1 2004: 35-37

Families from diverse cultural backgrounds may feel the pressures of marketing towards children more than other families do, the authors suggest. They discuss the manner and impact of marketing towards children, media portrayals of young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and strategies for parents to resist these media pressures.

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"When a car makes you feel good about its looks, that's styling. When a car makes you feel good about yourself, that's character". Chrysler advertisement in National Geographic, early 1970s.

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## 11. Sydney Peace and Justice Coalition

The **Sydney Peace and Justice Coalition** is a broad coalition of groups in New South Wales dedicated to campaigning for peace. It was launched on July 7, 2003. It emerged from the Walk Against The War Coalition, which organised the Sydney anti-Iraq war movement between October 2002 and April 2003. You'll find notice of upcoming events as [www.nswpeace.org](http://www.nswpeace.org)

## 12. NOWAR SA

The website of **NOWAR SA** features links to NOWAR organisations, alternative media organisations, and peace groups of all kinds - all around Australia and across the world - [www.nowar-sa.net/links.html](http://www.nowar-sa.net/links.html)

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