



# Psychologists for Peace

## Peace News - September 2014

### Celebrating peace as our country goes to war



September 21 is the International Day of Peace. Sadly this week our PM Tony Abbott has decided to involve Australian troops in a US led war in Iraq, for the third time in recent memory. We will soon be sending Australians overseas to risk their lives and the lives of many innocent

men, women and children who will surely be killed as part of the inevitable collateral damage during air strikes.

What could have been done to prevent the apparent need to go to war? How could the world have avoided another radical resistance group posing such a threat that war seems warranted? In this quarterly edition of the Peace News we will look at what commentators on the current war have posed as viable alternatives to violence.

We also look at the many peace events you can be involved around Australia. September 21 marks nationwide climate protests in the absence of government leadership on global environmental issues that may lead to increased worldwide resource conflicts. Check our events section for more information.

Best wishes,

*Psychologists for Peace*



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1. PFP News**  
Awards  
Join PFP's Kiva group
- 2. Recent publications & resources**  
Books & articles
- 3. Calls for papers & Conferences**  
Peace conferences around the world
- 4. In the news**  
News and views from the media and the peace movement
- 5. Merchandise**  
Educational posters for conflict resolution
- 6. Events and activities**  
Local and international events
- 7. Contact Us**



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE  
21 SEPTEMBER 2014

THE RIGHT  
OF PEOPLES  
TO PEACE



# 1. PFP News

## Peace In Mind Radio Series shortlisted for award

In 2013 radio producers Kim Stewart, Linda Rose and Nathan Renault produced a 10 part radio series *Peace In Mind*, with the help of the Community Broadcasting Foundation, Psychologists for Peace and Radio 4EB in Brisbane.

We have been selected as finalists for the category of *Best New Radio Program – Talks*. The award winners will be announced in November.

Awards info here: <http://cbaa.org.au/news/2014-CBAA-Awards-Finalists>

You can listen to all ten episodes here: <http://www.cpod.org.au/page.php?id=456>



Psychologists for Peace have a Kiva lending group. Kiva helps people connect with others in the majority world to allow person to person small loans. These loans help people get small business off the ground, which is a great way to alleviate long term poverty.

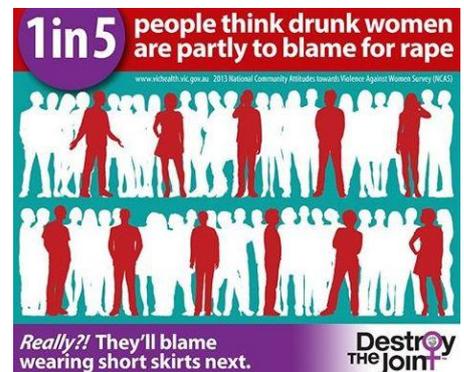
PFP members have loaned **\$32,900** to over 1000 small business in the developing world since established.

Join here: [http://www.kiva.org/team/psychologists\\_for\\_peace](http://www.kiva.org/team/psychologists_for_peace)

## 2. Recent Publications & Resources

### New report finds Australians' views on violence against women still poor in 2014.

"An alarming number of Australians are ready to excuse rapists and men who control, intimidate, bash and kill women and many apportion blame to the victim, a new report reveals. One in five Australians agree that a woman is partly responsible for rape if she is intoxicated. And one in six support the deplorable notion that women say 'no' when they mean 'yes'. These findings are contained in VicHealth's national survey of 17,500 Australians about their views on violence against women and gender equality" (VicHealth Media Release, September 17, 2014).



Read the full report here: <http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/Media-Centre/Media-Releases-by-Topic/Freedom-from-violence/Australians-views-on-violence-against-women-still-poor-in-2014.aspx#.VBiwrJSSy8A>

## 3. Calls for papers & Conferences

### Peace and Justice 2014 annual conference, San Diego, USA. October 16–18, 2014, in San Diego, California, USA

Themed: "Courageous Presence: Shifting Stories and Practices of Peace" Co-hosted by the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, and the School of Leadership and Education Sciences."To work for peace and justice from a place of hope, compassion, and persistence requires courage — not only to face conflict, suffering, and violence, but also to

claim one's own share of the trouble and thereby disrupt the cycle of disowned projection that creates the Other. Such courageous presence invites spaciousness, creativity, and inclusivity."

<https://www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference>

## 4. In the news

**No to US/NATO, Yes to peace.** Mairead Corigan Maguire.

"We are at a dangerous point in our history of the human family and it would be the greatest of tragedies for ourselves and our children if we simply allowed the war profiteers to take us into a third world war, resulting in the death of untold millions of people."

<https://www.transcend.org/tms/2014/09/no-to-usnato-and-yes-to-peace/>

**Troops And Super Hornets: The 'Humanitarian Mission' We Had To Have.** Ben Eltham

"Degrading – let alone destroying – the Islamic State in Iraq won't address the regional aspects of the conflict. In fact, if successful, it will only strengthen the hand of the Assad regime in Syria, and therefore, by proxy, Iran. But Tony Abbott and his ministers continue to pretend that it can ignore the wider aspect of the conflict, which in a very real sense represents a proxy war between Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states against Syria, the rump Shiite government of Iraq, and Iran. By fighting the Islamic State, we're also helping the Assad regime and its sponsors in Tehran. That's a fact that Tony Abbott is choosing not to tell Australian citizens."

<https://newmatilda.com/2014/09/16/troops-and-super-hornets-humanitarian-mission-we-apparently-had-have>

**The War on Terror Is a – Predictable – Fiasco.** Jan Oberg .

"The war on terror has always been about killing terrorists but you can not kill an ism – terrorism. To do something about the causes that compel people to become terrorists would be much more efficient."

<https://www.transcend.org/tms/2014/09/september-11-the-war-on-terror-is-a-predictable-fiasco/>

**Take the High Road to Peace.** Rev. John Dear.

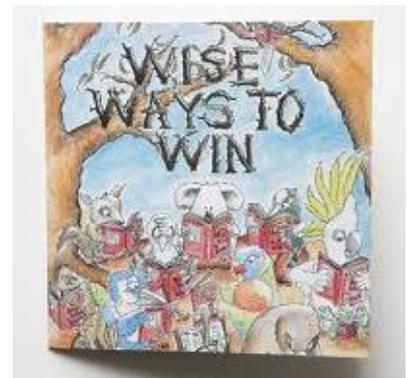
"We have been bombing Iraq for 23 years, and killed over a million people, closer to 1.5 million, in Iraq. None of this warmaking has brought us closer to peace."

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2014/09/13/take-high-road-peace>

## 5. PFP Merchandise

Psychologists for Peace have available a range of colourful and helpful posters for peace advocates and educators. They target a range of age groups.

We have the PFP prize winning children's book "Wise Ways to Win" and educational posters themed on issues including bullying, dealing with anger, how to say sorry, peaceful families and conflict resolution, all brightly illustrated and easy to understand. <http://www.groups.psychology.org.au/pfp/resources/educational/>



## 6. Events and activities

**People's Climate Marches: Australia-wide**

"In September, heads of state are going to New York City for a historic summit on climate change. With our future on the line, we will take a weekend and use it to bend the course of history.

To make this moment count, we need to act -- together. All around the world, people will be coming together for a weekend of historic action on climate change. Our collective demand is for Action, Not Words: take the action necessary to create a world with an economy that works for people and the planet."

[http://act.350.org/event/peoples\\_climate\\_attend/7676?source=AK-FB](http://act.350.org/event/peoples_climate_attend/7676?source=AK-FB)



**International Day of Peace** is celebrated throughout the world! Many local peace organizations have organized events on September 21 and throughout the year.

Search to see what is organized in your area. <http://internationaldayofpeace.org/>

## 100 Peace project

“In July 2013 along with peace activist  
trespassed onto  
Military Training



## Pilgrims

with long-time  
Graeme Dunstan, I  
Shoalwater Bay  
Area. I stood in

front of a column of armoured humvees participating in the Talisman Sabre War Exercises. The military reported that consequently we had halted activities of millions of dollars of people and equipment while they arrested us.

Very few times in my life have I felt as free as when I was breaking a lower law to speak up for the higher law of peace and love of my neighbours. What if there were 100 peace pilgrims seeking to disrupt our war practice? It's time – could it be you in 2015?" <http://100peacepilgrims.wordpress.com/>



## Women's power to stop war.

“In 2015, The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will be celebrating our 100th Anniversary! In light of this monumental event, WILPF gave name to the movement it has been advocating for the past 100 years, Women's Power to Stop War. By joining the movement, you will be part of an international community of courageous activists, who believe conflicts and wars cannot be stopped without the participation of women – and that it is time that women focus on and use their power to stop war.”

<http://www.womenstopwar.org/>

## 7. Contact Us



PFP is an interest group of the Australian Psychological Society. Its members are psychologists, and others, who are concerned about the prevalence of war and conflict in our world and are interested in applying their professional skills to issues relating to promoting peace and preventing war. We are working to promote peace in the world and prevent conflict through psychological research, education and advocacy.

Find out more online <http://www.groups.psychology.org.au/pfp/>

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