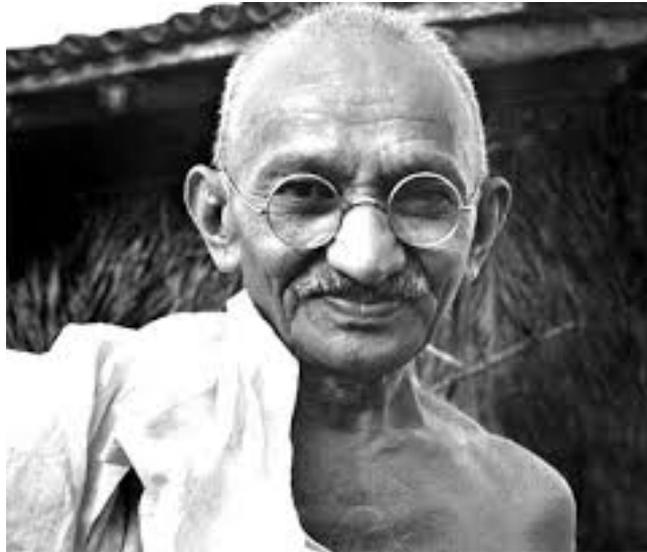


# Nonviolence

Leo R. Sandy

- *Nonviolence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man/ Mahatma Gandhi*



# Nonviolence Action Defined

- ...those methods of protest, noncooperation, and intervention in which the actionists, without employing physical violence, refuse to do certain things which they are expected or required to do; or do certain things which they are not expected , or are forbidden to do...the large class of phenomena called nonviolent resistance, satygraha, passive resistance, positive action, and nonviolent direct action/ Gene Sharp

# What Nonviolent Action is

- It is action
- It may involve motives – social, political, religious and/or ethical
- It can be local to international
- It rejects violence
- It involves risk, self-sacrifice, suffering
- It attempts to resolve conflict
- It wields power effectively
- It's practiced by ordinary people

# What Nonviolent Action is not

- It is not pacifism, passivity, submission, or cowardice
- It does not ignore or avoid conflict
- It is not just psychological persuasion
- It does not depend on the goodness of the opponent
- It does not require sainthood
- It is neither eastern nor western
- It does not guarantee a nonviolent response

# What Nonviolent Action is not Cont'd

- It may not always be used for “good” causes
- It is not limited to any time period or type of regime or culture
- It may or may not take longer to work than violence or war

# How Nonviolent Action Works

- It strikes at the root of power where people withdraw their consent to be told what to do
- Facing repression reflects self-discipline and breaks through the barrier of fear
- Political jiu jitsu is achieved when people see the opponent using unreasonable force against unarmed and peaceful protestors

# Examples of Nonviolent Action

- The Korean Zen Abbot
- The Khan's Pathans of India
- The Teachers in Norway, 1940
- The Mooners in Moscow, 1960s
- Rose Street women in Germany, 1943
- The Monorahs in Billings, Montana, 1994
- The Womb Protest in Finland, 2002
- African Americans and the Southern Jailer, 1960s
- Col. Robert Helvey, Myanmar

# Mechanisms of Change

- Conversion: the opponent changes his heart, mind, and practices
- Accomodation: the opponent changes his practices only
- Coercion: The opponent yields grudgingly and has lost his enforcement powers
- Disintegration: The opponent's power has dissolve and he accedes to defeat

# Major Types of Nonviolence

- 1. Protest and Persuasion (vigils and marches)
- 2. Noncooperation (boycotts and strikes)
- 3. Intervention (sit-ins and occupations)
- The higher the level, the greater personal risk. There are 198 techniques involved.

# Issues in Nonviolent Action

- Agents Provocateurs
- Secrecy vs Openness
- Counter nonviolence
- Necessity of suffering
- Humor: The Commandment's sick dog/  
Norway
- Transarmanent

# Important Nonviolence Concepts

- Satygraha: This means clinging to truth, soul force, and that the ends must always be related to the means ,e.g., not killing for peace
  - *The way of peace is the way of truth. Truthfulness is even more important than peacefulness. Indeed, lying is the mother of violence. A truthful man cannot long remain violent/ Gandhi*

# Important Nonviolence Concepts cont'd

- Seven Rules of Satygraha:
  - 1. Self-reliance
  - 2. Keep the initiative
  - 3. Follow the rules
  - 4. Keep demands consistent with the truth
  - 5. Follow the steps/stages of the current situation
  - 6. Self-examination
  - 7. Look for areas of agreement

# Important Nonviolence Concepts

- Ahimsa:
- non-killing, reverence for life, pure love, especially for your opponent. It also includes
- striving for the greatest good of all
- a heartfelt response to social injustice
- a willing to die but never kill

# Violence vs Nonviolence

- Violence depends on secrecy and secret organizations whereas nonviolence is transparent
- Violence is the option of the wealthy whereas nonviolence is the option of the poor
- Violence depends on technology whereas nonviolence depends on “soul” force

# Violence vs Nonviolence cont'd

- Violence employs dehumanization whereas nonviolence humanizes the opponent
- Violence seeks to dominate and control whereas nonviolence seeks to convert and liberate
- Violence routinizes killing whereas nonviolence forbids it
- Violence promotes hypervigilance whereas nonviolence eases tensions

# Violence vs Nonviolence cont'd

- Violence promotes fear and hostility whereas nonviolence defuses them
- Violence leads to revenge whereas nonviolence promotes forgiveness and reconciliation
- Violence stresses victory whereas nonviolence stresses healing and justice

# King Center Nonviolence Principles

- 1. Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people
- 2. Nonviolence seeks to win friendship and understanding
- 3. Nonviolence seeks to defeat injustice, and not people
- 4. Nonviolence holds that suffering can educate and reform
- 5. Nonviolence chooses love over hate
- 6. Nonviolence believes the universe is on the side of justice

# Six Steps of Nonviolence: King Center

- 1. Information gathering (fact finding)
- 2. Education
- 3. Negotiations
- 4. Direct Action
- 5. Reconciliation

# Limitations of Nonviolence Action

- Nonviolence does not guarantee that the society will become socially just
- Some temporary military action would be required to prevent imminent genocide or stop it in process
- Media coverage promotes the effectiveness of nonviolent action

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