

OMNI NEWSLETTER #1 ON VIOLENCE

FEBRUARY 25, 2008, BUILDING A CULTURE OF PEACE, Compiled by Dick Bennett

WE, THE PEOPLE, CITIZENS, Each a Lighthouse

CONTENTS

Nobel Charter for a World Without Violence
S2279 Stop Violence Against Women
National Index of Violence and Harm
Violence Is Learned
How Empathy is Learned
Bullying

(See: OMNI's List of Organizations in NWA that deal with Domestic Violence)

SENATOR LINCOLN (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

CONGRESSMAN Boozman: Lowell office: 479-725-0400.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

NOBEL CHARTER FOR A WORLD WITHOUT VIOLENCE [Video](#) [Groups](#) [Books](#) [Scholar](#)

[Finance](#) [Blogs](#)

[YouTube](#) [Calendar](#) [Photos](#) [Documents](#) [Reader](#)

[even more »](#)

jbennet@uark.edu | [Web History](#) | [My Account](#) | [Sign out](#)

[Google](#)

Nobel Charter for a World Without Violence Search [Advanced Search](#)
[Preferences](#)

Web Results 1 - 10 of about 27,800 for [Nobel Charter](#) for a [World Without Violence](#). (0.21 seconds)

[Mary Ellen McNish Presents Charter for a World Without Violence to ...](#)

For more information. Visit the **Nobel** for Peace Summits online · Read the **Charter for a World Without Violence** (PDF, 486 KB) ...

www.afsc.org/news/2007/world-without-violence.htm - 16k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) -

[Note this](#)

[anisha.sud - The Charter for a World without Violence](#)

Signers of the **Charter for a World without Violence**. 1. Mikhail Gorbachev, **Nobel** Peace Laureate. 2. Mairead Corrigan Maguire, **Nobel** Peace Laureate ...

anisha.sud.googlepages.com/home - 54k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[anisha.sud - Report on the Charter for a World Without Violence](#)

Growing from our summits of the last three years, the **World's Nobel** ... Some might find the idea of a **Charter for a World Without Violence** to be audacious. ...

anisha.sud.googlepages.com/reportonthecharterforaworldwithoutviolen - 54k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Vivian Norris de Montaignu: Peace On Earth! Charter For A World ...](#)

To obtain a full copy of the **Charter for a World without Violence** go to nobelforpeace-summits.org. In remembrance of the **Nobel** Peace laureate, ...

www.huffingtonpost.com/vivian-norris-de-montaignu/peace-on-earth-charter-f_b_77350.html

- 56k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[DOC]

[Charter for a World Without Violence](#)

File Format: Microsoft Word - [View as HTML](#)

Charter for a World Without Violence. 8th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates. "Violence is

a preventable disease". No state or individual can be secure ...

www.interactionassociates.com/ideas/Charter%20for%20a%20World%20Without%20Violence.doc

- [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[PDF]

[PRIMA BOZZA](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - [View as HTML](#)

contained in this **Charter** is a vital step to ensuring the survival and development of humanity and the achievement of a **world without violence**. We, **Nobel** ...

www.nobelpeace-summits.org/ENG/PDF/2007/CHARTER_ULTIMATE.pdf - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Permanent Secretariat of Nobel Peace Laureates Summits](#)

CHARTER FOR A WORLD WITHOUT VIOLENCE Human violence is a preventable disease ... by the **Nobel Peace Laureates** and **Nobel Peace Laureate Organizations**. ...

www.nobelpeace-summits.org/ENG/charter.htm - 9k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)
[More results from www.nobelpeace-summits.org »](#)

[His Holiness joins fellow Nobel Peace Laureates in Italy](#)

Dharamshala, 7 December, TibetNet: A battery of **Nobel Peace laureates** including His ...

The summit will approve a **Charter** for the **world without violence**. ...

www.tibet.com/NewsRoom/hhitalynoblelaureates1.htm - 10k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Children of war on a tank of war International Peace Bureau For a ...](#)

Two documents were released at the Closing Press Conference of the Summit: the **Charter For a World Without Violence**, which **Nobel Peace Laureates** and ...

www.ipb.org/8thWorldSummit.html - 37k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[To: Amy Asselbayer, Chief of Staff, Congressman Neil Abercrombie](#)

... for the Children of the **World** (2001-2010), and in the first year of the **Nobel Peace Laureates'** Campaign for a **Charter for a World without Violence**, ...

[www.peacepeople.com/2007/Forum%20-%20Report%20for%20a%20Nonkilling%20World%20\(2\).htm](http://www.peacepeople.com/2007/Forum%20-%20Report%20for%20a%20Nonkilling%20World%20(2).htm) - 21k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED:

1) info: support S.2279 "Stop Violence Against Women" (by Senators Joe Biden (D-DE) and Richard Lugar (R-IN))

2) petition: click on, and sign online.

3) background: US Senate authors, etc.

4) sample letter: go for it.

"Promoting ways to diminish violence..." C.W.U. Priority 2004-2008

Imagine a world where women are free to thrive

ASK YOUR US SENATOR TO SUPPORT THE

International Violence Against Women Act (S. 2279)

--make a phone call, FAX a letter, mail it, AND sign the petition!

Congressional Switchboard: 202-225-3121 202-224-3121

[Sign the IAWA petition!](#)

Click on: http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/840/t/4142/petition.jsp?petition_KEY=617

Be sure to enter your name and address to sign the petition (scroll down the page)

BACKGROUND !

On October 31, 2007 a bill that would help empower millions of women to escape violence and poverty, the International Violence Against Women Act (I-VAWA, S.2279) was introduced in the U.S. Senate. Help make it a reality for women worldwide!

To learn more about the International Violence Against Women Act read the Sample letter below! Or go to:

http://www.womensedge.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=366&Itemid=4

SAMPLE LETTER:

Dear Congressperson,

We call on you to support the International Violence Against Women Act (I-VAWA), a groundbreaking piece of legislation that would incorporate and make consistent efforts to reduce violence against women and girls in U.S. foreign assistance programs.

Violence against women is a cause of poverty and a huge barrier to women's economic opportunity - it can keep women from getting an education, working, and earning the income they need to lift

their families out of poverty. Moreover, research has shown that giving women in poor countries economic opportunity empowers them to escape and prevent violent situations. In Kerala, India, for example, a study showed that only 7 percent of women who owned property suffered from physical violence, compared to 49 percent of women with no property. The United Nations Development Fund for Women estimates that one in three women around the world will be beaten or abused in her lifetime. If the U.S. wants its efforts to reduce poverty to be as effective as possible, this has got to stop.

By promoting women's economic opportunity, addressing violence against girls in school, encouraging legal reform, working to change public attitudes, and supporting health programs and survivor services, especially in crisis situations, the I-VAWA could have a huge impact on improving the effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs and reducing poverty.

Women in poor countries already face enough barriers to lifting their families out of poverty. Violence should not be one of them. Please join us in supporting women's opportunity worldwide by supporting the International Violence Against Women Act.

Sincerely, YOU
***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

ALERT FROM:
Patricia Burkhardt
Church Women United
Legislative Office
100 Maryland Ave NE RM 100
Washington DC 20002
202 544 8747, fax 202 544 9133

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

Gratefully forwarded by
Nathaniel Batchelder, The Peace House Oklahoma City
www.PeaceHouseOK.org

Neil Wollman; Ph. D.; Senior Fellow, Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility;
Bentley College; Waltham, MA, 02452; NWollman@Bentley.edu; 260-568-0116

DECADE-LONG TREND OF LESSENING VIOLENCE AND HARM IN THE U.S. STALLS

TEN-YEAR INCREASE IN HARM TO THE POOR CONTINUES

NORTH MANCHESTER, Ind. (December 18, 2007) – A number of measures in the National Index of Violence and Harm (NIVAH) worsened after a long improvement. More specifically, while fifteen of nineteen variables improved from 1995-2005 (thirteen trends were statistically significant), less than half of these nineteen variables improved from 2004 to 2005.* In 2005, increases in violence and harm were seen in the ten categories of "Homicide," "Battery," "Robbery," "Deaths from Substance Abuse," "Air Pollution," "Domestic Violence," "Child Abuse," "Life Expectancy," and "Poverty Disparity."

Deteriorating conditions are nothing new for the most vulnerable in our society. The consistent increase in hunger, homelessness, and those without health insurance continued into 2005. Researcher and statistician Dr. James Brumbaugh-Smith asserts that "These statistics present a troubling picture for our society. The poor need more than a free meal and warm setting on Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Manchester College and Bentley College researchers have been annually gathering NIVAH data since 1995. The Index is divided into two broad categories of violence/harm. The Personal Index includes interpersonal (for example homicide, battery, and robbery) and intrapersonal (suicide and deaths by substance abuse). The Societal Index includes harm caused by the institutions of government (for example, abuse/misconduct by law enforcement), corporations (for instance air pollution) and families (such as child abuse). It also includes harm resulting from the structuring of society (including poverty and discrimination).

As research team member Dr. Bradley Yoder notes, "As opposed to the more familiar and dramatic personal harm, such as homicide, societal harm is just as destructive and is far more pervasive in our society. Many more people are adversely affected by structural and institutional forces."

In the Personal Index, street crime, called "interpersonal violence", has increased after a steadily declining trend over past years. Three of the five variables worsened; "homicide," "battery," and "robbery." The two "intrapersonal" variables, however, have diverged, with an inconsistent downward trend for "suicide/self-injury," and a steady increase in deaths from substance abuse in all three areas of smoking, alcohol and illicit drugs. Altogether, these changes resulted in an overall drop in the Personal Index of 16% since 1995, although in 2005 personal violence and harm edged upward to 2003 levels.

For Societal violence and harm, the overall index improved somewhat in 2005, decreasing from 89.9 to 89.2% of levels measured in 1995. However, while all four subcategories improved from 1995-2005 [Government (correctional system and law enforcement), Structural, Corporate, and Family], the latter two worsened from 2004 to 2005.

The clearest example of worsening societal harm is social negligence which has increased 24% since 1995. Although the overall index for this category decreased this year, this is due solely to a decrease in high school drop-out rate (from 4.4 to 3.5% in 2005). Conversely, the uninsured population has risen slowly but steadily since 2000, while there has been a dramatic rise in hunger and in homelessness since 1997. Measures of homelessness, hunger, and lack of health insurance have all increased for most years since 1995, increasing 87%, 76%, and 12%, respectively, since 1995.

Using the Poverty Disparity variable, several issues in interpreting this research can be illustrated. First, the Index itself measures changes over time, not whether the level of any variable should be considered high or low. For example, within Poverty Disparity, a comparison was made between whites and non-whites regarding poverty level, with the gap closing by 21% over the years studied, a statistically significant trend. However, non-whites were still 2.6 times more likely to be in poverty in 2005 than were whites. Poverty Disparity, along with several other variables, is comprised of more than one measure, providing sometimes conflicting input into the overall variable. For example, while poverty disparity has declined overall for gender, race, and age over the time period studied, class differences has steadily risen, with income disparity in recent years being the greatest on record.

In summary, lead researcher Neil Wollman states, "Although I had seen the individual data over the years, I had not tuned into the global picture that was developing and was surprised by the consistent improvement in so many measures. Though we will have to check future years, perhaps that trend may be coming to a halt. What did not surprise me was the always dramatic and continuing deterioration for those most vulnerable in our society. Unless new forces come into play, the overall picture cannot be expected to improve in the foreseeable future. In fact, hunger, homelessness, and lack of health insurance for many worsened again in 2005. With the financial demands of two wars abroad, the plight of the poor here will likely worsen further. Given the basic nature of these long unfulfilled needs—and the fact that a number of other countries see fit to provide in these areas—we may need to look more closely at ourselves and our self-image of being a compassionate people."

=====
 The Index is a project of the Manchester College Peace Studies Institute and the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility. The researchers are Neil Wollman (primary contact), Ph.D., Senior Fellow of the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility (260.568.0116, nwollman@bentley.edu); Bradley L. Yoder, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Social Work (260.982.5366, blyoder@manchester.edu); James P. Brumbaugh-Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics (260.982.5011, jpbrumbaugh-smith@manchester.edu); and Caitlin Haynes, Manchester College student (chaynes@manchester.edu).

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE PERIODIC UPDATES ON THE NATIONAL INDEX OF VIOLENCE AND HARM, WRITE NWOLLMAN@BENTLEY.EDU, WITH "SEND NIVAH UPDATES" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

2007 National Index of Violence and Harm

1995-2005 Summary

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Personal Index	100.0	96.5	94.3	89.7	85.4	83.7	84.3	85.1	84.0
<u>Interpersonal</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>95.5</u>	<u>92.6</u>	<u>86.8</u>	<u>82.7</u>	<u>79.5</u>	<u>79.3</u>	<u>79.0</u>	<u>77.3</u>
1 Homicide	100.0	89.9	82.3	75.8	68.6	68.1	69.3	69.4	70.0
2 Sexual Offenses	100.0	99.3	100.2	94.3	91.2	89.3	88.0	90.1	86.6
3 Battery	100.0	98.1	98.2	93.8	88.5	86.2	85.2	82.4	78.7
4 Robbery	100.0	91.2	83.9	74.4	67.3	66.3	68.1	67.0	65.3
5 Reckless Behavior	100.0	99.6	100.0	95.6	97.9	91.2	88.7	89.3	88.6
<u>Intrapersonal</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>99.0</u>	<u>98.7</u>	<u>99.0</u>	<u>95.5</u>	<u>95.2</u>	<u>98.2</u>	<u>102.2</u>	<u>103.2</u>
6 Suicide/Self-Injury	100.0	97.6	95.3	94.3	89.4	88.9	91.7	93.9	92.5
7 Deaths from Substance Abuse	100.0	100.4	102.2	103.6	101.6	102.0	105.2	111.4	115.1
a Smoking	100.0	100.5	101.2	101.9	103.2	102.6	102.1	102.4	102.2
b Alcohol	100.0	97.5	96.2	95.0	94.8	94.7	95.6	95.3	96.5
c Other Drugs	100.0	103.2	109.7	114.9	107.3	109.4	119.1	141.5	154.8
Societal Index	100.0	96.3	99.8	98.7	98.1	96.2	98.8	93.6	92.8
<u>Government</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>87.5</u>	<u>115.7</u>	<u>119.0</u>	<u>123.3</u>	<u>117.7</u>	<u>127.9</u>	<u>110.5</u>	<u>111.5</u>
8 Correctional System	100.0	93.2	120.2	116.0	141.1	132.5	115.3	117.8	111.4

a	Capital Punishment	100.0	79.4	129.1	117.2	167.0	143.2	110.0	117.2	106.3
b	Nonviolent Incarceration	100.0	109.5	112.0	114.8	119.3	122.5	120.7	118.5	116.8
9	Law Enforcement	100.0	82.1	111.3	121.9	105.5	104.7	142.0	103.6	111.6
a	Deaths by Police Intervention	100.0	103.2	94.7	104.1	100.6	87.9	104.8	98.4	111.5
b	Abuse/Misconduct	100.0	65.2	130.9	142.9	110.7	124.5	192.3	109.1	111.7
	Corporate	100.0	87.8	86.1	88.0	85.1	83.0	83.6	79.9	76.3
10	Air Pollution	100.0	81.0	81.3	86.4	81.9	79.5	81.3	77.9	73.5
a	People Experiencing Pollution	100.0	57.7	62.0	76.7	70.9	68.0	73.7	80.2	65.3
b	Ambient Pollution Level	100.0	95.4	92.5	92.4	91.7	88.5	90.7	76.4	80.8
c	Pollution Emitted	100.0	96.5	93.5	91.1	84.5	83.5	80.3	77.2	75.4
11	Consumers/Employees	100.0	95.2	91.3	89.6	88.3	86.7	86.0	81.9	79.2
a	Product Injuries	100.0	94.5	88.8	93.0	95.3	96.8	102.3	101.6	97.0
b	Occupational Injury/Illness	100.0	91.4	87.7	82.7	77.8	75.3	70.4	65.4	61.7
c	Occupational Fatalities	100.0	100.0	97.7	93.6	92.9	89.3	88.3	82.6	82.8
	Family	100.0	101.0	100.2	94.3	90.6	88.3	87.7	86.3	85.4
12	Domestic Violence	100.0	102.3	107.2	100.4	101.1	93.8	91.3	89.2	86.7
13	Child Abuse/Neglect	100.0	99.7	93.7	88.2	80.1	83.0	84.3	83.6	84.2
	Structural	100.0	101.0	99.6	98.3	99.0	97.3	99.8	95.9	95.7
14	Social Negligence	100.0	98.7	96.6	102.3	103.7	106.7	113.5	112.0	120.0
a	Lack of Health Insurance	100.0	101.3	104.5	105.8	101.1	100.4	103.2	107.7	110.3
b	Hunger	100.0	104.3	102.1	114.8	113.1	120.8	133.5	147.5	158.5
c	Drop-Out Rate	100.0	87.9	79.2	82.5	87.3	84.2	87.4	62.0	70.0
d	Homelessness	100.0	102.2	103.1	109.4	115.9	127.1	137.9	159.5	169.7
15	Infant Mortality/Life Expectancy	100.0	97.8	96.9	96.8	96.1	94.9	93.7	95.0	93.9
a	Infant Mortality	100.0	96.1	94.7	94.7	93.4	91.4	89.5	92.1	90.1
b	Life Expectancy	100.0	99.6	99.1	98.8	98.8	98.4	98.2	98.1	97.8
16	Hate Crimes	100.0	98.0	95.7	89.6	89.3	89.4	107.2	81.4	79.6
17	Employment Discrimination	100.0	89.1	92.1	89.6	86.7	88.6	89.8	93.3	88.3
18	Poverty Disparity	100.0	99.9	98.9	98.3	97.4	96.5	94.9	95.0	96.4
a	Class	100.0	103.3	105.9	105.2	106.4	106.4	109.2	109.5	113.4
b	Race	100.0	96.3	89.5	90.0	85.9	83.8	79.7	80.6	81.7
c	Gender	100.0	101.8	101.8	101.5	101.0	100.8	98.1	97.0	96.7
d	Age	100.0	98.3	99.0	97.3	91.6	90.7	87.4	85.7	89.2
19	Gang Membership	100.0	125.8	119.8	113.3	120.6	109.6	101.8	101.7	100.7

* = significant positive or negative trend (depending on correlation) at the .05 level; ** = significant trend

Copyright 2007, Manchester College Peace Studies Institute and Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Justice

VIOLENCE IS LEARNED

FSTV program "The Origins of Human Aggression: The Other Story": children learn violence developmentally via fear, anger. We are actually programmed to curb aggression, and that inherent tendency needs reinforcement.

See: *The Human Potential for Peace: An Anthropological Challenge to Assumptions about War and Violence* by Douglas Fry (Oxford UP, 2006). This was the subject of an OMNI BOOK FORUM in 2006.

HOW EMPATHY IS LEARNED

"Babies in arms help stop bullying"

<http://wwwstuff.co.nz/dominionpost/4290410a6000.html>



"Once it's introduced to the classroom and they see it grow and eventually crawl, I think that will be quite a success. "I would think they would become quite protective of their little baby."

The \$1 million three-year trial is being partly funded by the education, health and social development ministries, and is supported by the children's commissioner. It was brought to New Zealand by the Peace Foundation. International research has shown it reduces aggression and bullying while encouraging empathy and pro-social behaviour in participating children.

ANDREW GORRIE/The Dominion Post

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Naena Primary School pupil Tauroa Hodgson, 8, says babies are cute. Seen here making friends with three-month-old Jerome Campbell, he hopes to take part in the school's babies at school project next year.

At play yesterday with three-month-old Jerome Campbell, year 4 pupil Tauroa Hodgson, 8, said he liked babies "because they're cute" and hoped to take part in next year's class.

"They're funny sometimes, when they smile at you. My cousin's got one. It makes me laugh."

Other Wellington schools to take part are Holy Cross in Miramar, Karori West, Churton Park, Johnsonville, Koranui in Stokes Valley, Rangikura in Ascot Park and Belmont.

The Peace Foundation hopes the project will eventually run at all New Zealand primary schools.

Alyn Ware

Director - The Peace Foundation Wellington Office
PO Box 24-429, Manners Street
Wellington, Aotearoa-New Zealand
alyn@lcnp.org
www.peace.net.nz

REPORTING VIOLENCE IN THE NEWSPAPERS

Several times a year, NWA newspaper reporters/columnists decry school violence. Peggy Treiber, *TMN* (1-28, "Antidote to Bullying Starts with Listening," is a good example. Her opening example about a group of 2nd graders (girls) ganging up on a boy. From there she goes on to tell about older children bullying others and their victims, including the Columbine boys, who had been picked on for years. She gives statistics ("Every day...more than 160,000 children miss school because they fear being bullied..."). And she offers a remedy: the Challenge Day Program (www.challengeday.org) brings together students of all kinds to listen to the fears and hopes of others. Short but the article felt complete.

Yet its brevity left out many crucial questions. How does violence originate? What is the connection among the many kinds of violence? Is violence systemic, a part of a culture (or absent from it)? Is violence intrinsic to our economic system of individualistic profit-making? How do US militarism and imperialism promote personal violence?

SENATOR LINCOLN (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

CONGRESSMAN Boozman: Lowell office: 479-725-0400.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldng., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

Compiled by Dick Bennett

CONTENTS

Nobel Charter for a World Without Violence
S2279 Stop Violence Against Women
National Index of Violence and Harm
Violence Is Learned
How Empathy is Learned
Bullying

(See: OMNI's List of Organizations in NWA that deal with Domestic Violence)

SENATOR LINCOLN (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

CONGRESSMAN Boozman: Lowell office: 479-725-0400.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

NOBEL CHARTER FOR A WORLD WITHOUT VIOLENCE jbennet@uark.edu | [Web](#)

[History](#) | [My Account](#) | [Sign out](#)
[Google](#)

Web Results 1 - 10 of about 27,800 for [Nobel Charter for a World Without Violence](#). (0.21 seconds)

[Mary Ellen McNish Presents Charter for a World Without Violence to ...](#)

For more information. Visit the **Nobel** for Peace Summits online · Read the **Charter for a World Without Violence** (PDF, 486 KB) ...

www.afsc.org/news/2007/world-without-violence.htm - 16k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[anisha.sud - The Charter for a World without Violence](#)

Signers of the **Charter for a World without Violence**. 1. Mikhail Gorbachev, **Nobel** Peace Laureate. 2. Mairead Corrigan Maguire, **Nobel** Peace Laureate ...

anisha.sud.googlepages.com/home - 54k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[anisha.sud - Report on the Charter for a World Without Violence](#)

Growing from our summits of the last three years, the **World's Nobel** ... Some might find the idea of a **Charter for a World Without Violence** to be audacious. ...

anisha.sud.googlepages.com/reportonthecharterforaworldwithoutviolen - 54k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Vivian Norris de Montaignu: Peace On Earth! Charter For A World ...](#)

To obtain a full copy of the **Charter for a World without Violence** go to nobelforpeace-summits.org. In remembrance of the **Nobel** Peace laureate, ...

www.huffingtonpost.com/vivian-norris-de-montaignu/peace-on-earth-charter-f_b_77350.html - 56k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[DOC]

[Charter for a World Without Violence](#)

File Format: Microsoft Word - [View as HTML](#)

Charter for a World Without Violence. 8th **World** Summit of **Nobel** Peace Laureates. "Violence is a preventable disease". No state or individual can be secure ...

www.interactionassociates.com/ideas/Charter%20for%20a%20World%20Without%20Violence.doc - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[PDF]

[PRIMA BOZZA](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - [View as HTML](#)

contained in this **Charter** is a vital step to ensuring the survival and development of humanity and the achievement of a **world without violence**. We, **Nobel** ...

www.nobelpeace-summits.org/ENG/PDF/2007/CHARTER_ULTIMATE.pdf - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Permanent Secretariat of Nobel Peace Laureates Summits](#)

CHARTER FOR A WORLD WITHOUT VIOLENCE Human violence is a preventable disease ... by the Nobel Peace Laureates and Nobel Peace Laureate Organizations. ...

www.nobelpeace-summits.org/ENG/charter.htm - 9k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)
More results from www.nobelpeace-summits.org »

[His Holiness joins fellow Nobel Peace Laureates in Italy](#)

Dharamshala, 7 December, TibetNet: A battery of Nobel Peace laureates including His ...

The summit will approve a **Charter** for the **world without violence**. ...

www.tibet.com/NewsRoom/hhitalynoblelaureates1.htm - 10k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[Children of war on a tank of war International Peace Bureau For a ...](#)

Two documents were released at the Closing Press Conference of the Summit: the **Charter For a World Without Violence**, which Nobel Peace Laureates and ...

www.ipb.org/8thWorldSummit.html - 37k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

[To: Amy Asselbaye, Chief of Staff, Congressman Neil Abercrombie](#)

... for the Children of the **World** (2001-2010), and in the first year of the Nobel Peace Laureates' Campaign for a **Charter for a World without Violence**, ...

[www.peacepeople.com/2007/Forum%20-%20Report%20for%20a%20Nonkilling%20World%20\(2\).htm](http://www.peacepeople.com/2007/Forum%20-%20Report%20for%20a%20Nonkilling%20World%20(2).htm) - 21k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED:

- 1) info: support S.2279 "Stop Violence Against Women" (by Senators Joe Biden (D-DE) and Richard Lugar (R-IN))
- 2) petition: click on, and sign online.
- 3) background: US Senate authors, etc.
- 4) sample letter: go for it.

"Promoting ways to diminish violence..." C.W.U. Priority 2004-2008

Imagine a world where women are free to thrive

ASK YOUR US SENATOR TO SUPPORT THE

International Violence Against Women Act (S. 2279)

--make a phone call, FAX a letter, mail it, AND sign the petition!

Congressional Switchboard: 202-225-3121 202-224-3121

[Sign the IVAWA petition!](#)

Click on: http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/840/t/4142/petition.jsp?petition_KEY=617

Be sure to enter your name and address to sign the petition (scroll down the page)

BACKGROUND !

On October 31, 2007 a bill that would help empower millions of women to escape violence and poverty, the International Violence Against Women Act (I-VAWA, S.2279) was introduced in the U.S. Senate. Help make it a reality for women worldwide!

To learn more about the International Violence Against Women Act read the Sample letter below! Or go to:

http://www.womensedge.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=366&Itemid=4

SAMPLE LETTER:

Dear Congressperson,

We call on you to support the International Violence Against Women Act (I-VAWA), a groundbreaking piece of legislation that would incorporate and make consistent efforts to reduce violence against women and girls in U.S. foreign assistance programs.

Violence against women is a cause of poverty and a huge barrier to women's economic opportunity - it can keep women from getting an education, working, and earning the income they need to lift their families out of poverty. Moreover, research has shown that giving women in poor countries economic opportunity empowers them to escape and prevent violent situations. In Kerala, India, for example, a study showed that only 7 percent of women who owned property suffered from physical violence, compared to 49 percent of women with no property. The United Nations Development Fund for Women estimates that one in three women around the world will be beaten or abused in her lifetime. If the U.S. wants its efforts to reduce poverty to be as effective as possible, this has got to stop.

By promoting women's economic opportunity, addressing violence against girls in school,

encouraging legal reform, working to change public attitudes, and supporting health programs and survivor services, especially in crisis situations, the I-VAWA could have a huge impact on improving the effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs and reducing poverty.

Women in poor countries already face enough barriers to lifting their families out of poverty. Violence should not be one of them. Please join us in supporting women's opportunity worldwide by supporting the International Violence Against Women Act.

Sincerely, YOU
***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

ALERT FROM:
Patricia Burkhardt
Church Women United
Legislative Office
100 Maryland Ave NE RM 100
Washington DC 20002
202 544 8747, fax 202 544 9133

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

Gratefully forwarded by
Nathaniel Batchelder, The Peace House Oklahoma City
www.PeaceHouseOK.org

Neil Wollman; Ph. D.; Senior Fellow, Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility;
Bentley College; Waltham, MA, 02452; NWollman@Bentley.edu; 260-568-0116

DECADE-LONG TREND OF LESSENING VIOLENCE AND HARM IN THE U.S. STALLS

TEN-YEAR INCREASE IN HARM TO THE POOR CONTINUES

NORTH MANCHESTER, Ind. (December 18, 2007) – A number of measures in the National Index of Violence and Harm (NIVAH) worsened after a long improvement. More specifically, while fifteen of nineteen variables improved from 1995-2005 (thirteen trends were statistically significant), less than half of these nineteen variables improved from 2004 to 2005.* In 2005, increases in violence and harm were seen in the ten categories of "Homicide," "Battery," "Robbery," "Deaths from Substance Abuse," "Air Pollution," "Domestic Violence," "Child Abuse," "Life Expectancy," and "Poverty Disparity."

Deteriorating conditions are nothing new for the most vulnerable in our society. The consistent increase in hunger, homelessness, and those without health insurance continued into 2005. Researcher and statistician Dr. James Brumbaugh-Smith asserts that "These statistics present a troubling picture for our society. The poor need more than a free meal and warm setting on Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Manchester College and Bentley College researchers have been annually gathering NIVAH data since 1995. The Index is divided into two broad categories of violence/harm. The Personal Index includes interpersonal (for example homicide, battery, and robbery) and intrapersonal (suicide and deaths by substance abuse). The Societal Index includes harm caused by the institutions of government (for example, abuse/misconduct by law enforcement), corporations (for instance air pollution) and families (such as child abuse). It also includes harm resulting from the structuring of society (including poverty and discrimination).

As research team member Dr. Bradley Yoder notes, "As opposed to the more familiar and dramatic personal harm, such as homicide, societal harm is just as destructive and is far more pervasive in our society. Many more people are adversely affected by structural and institutional forces."

In the Personal Index, street crime, called "interpersonal violence", has increased after a steadily declining trend over past years. Three of the five variables worsened; "homicide," "battery," and "robbery." The two "intrapersonal" variables, however, have diverged, with an inconsistent downward trend for "suicide/self-injury," and a steady increase in deaths from substance abuse in all three areas of smoking, alcohol and illicit drugs. Altogether, these changes resulted in an overall drop in the Personal Index of 16% since 1995, although in 2005 personal violence and harm edged upward to 2003 levels.

For Societal violence and harm, the overall index improved somewhat in 2005, decreasing from 89.9 to 89.2% of levels measured in 1995. However, while all four subcategories improved from 1995-2005 [Government (correctional system and law enforcement), Structural, Corporate, and Family], the latter two worsened from 2004 to 2005.

The clearest example of worsening societal harm is social negligence which has increased 24% since 1995. Although the overall index for this category decreased this year, this is due solely to a decrease in high school drop-out rate (from 4.4 to 3.5% in 2005). Conversely, the uninsured population has risen slowly but steadily since 2000, while there has been a dramatic rise in hunger and in homelessness since 1997. Measures of homelessness, hunger, and lack of health insurance have all increased for most years since 1995, increasing 87%, 76%, and 12%, respectively, since 1995.

Using the Poverty Disparity variable, several issues in interpreting this research can be illustrated. First, the Index itself measures changes over time, not whether the level of any variable should be considered high or low. For example, within Poverty Disparity, a comparison was made between whites and non-whites regarding poverty level, with the gap closing by 21% over the years studied, a statistically significant trend. However, non-whites were still 2.6 times more likely to be in poverty in 2005 than were whites. Poverty Disparity, along with several other variables, is comprised of more than one measure, providing sometimes conflicting input into the overall variable. For example, while poverty disparity has declined overall for gender, race, and age over the time period studied, class differences has steadily risen, with income disparity in recent years being the greatest on record.

In summary, lead researcher Neil Wollman states, "Although I had seen the individual data over the years, I had not tuned into the global picture that was developing and was surprised by the consistent improvement in so many measures. Though we will have to check future years, perhaps that trend may be coming to a halt. What did not surprise me was the always dramatic and continuing deterioration for those most vulnerable in our society. Unless new forces come into play, the overall picture cannot be expected to improve in the foreseeable future. In fact, hunger, homelessness, and lack of health insurance for many worsened again in 2005. With the financial demands of two wars abroad, the plight of the poor here will likely worsen further. Given the basic nature of these long unfulfilled needs—and the fact that a number of other countries see fit to provide in these areas—we may need to look more closely at ourselves and our self-image of being a compassionate people."

=====
 The Index is a project of the Manchester College Peace Studies Institute and the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility. The researchers are Neil Wollman (primary contact), Ph.D., Senior Fellow of the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility (260.568.0116, nwollman@bentley.edu); Bradley L. Yoder, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Social Work (260.982.5366, blyoder@manchester.edu); James P. Brumbaugh-Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics (260.982.5011, jpbrumbaugh-smith@manchester.edu); and Caitlin Haynes, Manchester College student (chaynes@manchester.edu).

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE PERIODIC UPDATES ON THE NATIONAL INDEX OF VIOLENCE AND HARM, WRITE NWOLLMAN@BENTLEY.EDU, WITH "SEND NIVAH UPDATES" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

2007 National Index of Violence and Harm

1995-2005 Summary

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Personal Index	100.0	96.5	94.3	89.7	85.4	83.7	84.3	85.1	84.0
<u>Interpersonal</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>95.5</u>	<u>92.6</u>	<u>86.8</u>	<u>82.7</u>	<u>79.5</u>	<u>79.3</u>	<u>79.0</u>	<u>77.3</u>
1 Homicide	100.0	89.9	82.3	75.8	68.6	68.1	69.3	69.4	70.0
2 Sexual Offenses	100.0	99.3	100.2	94.3	91.2	89.3	88.0	90.1	86.6
3 Battery	100.0	98.1	98.2	93.8	88.5	86.2	85.2	82.4	78.7
4 Robbery	100.0	91.2	83.9	74.4	67.3	66.3	68.1	67.0	65.3
5 Reckless Behavior	100.0	99.6	100.0	95.6	97.9	91.2	88.7	89.3	88.6
<u>Intrapersonal</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>99.0</u>	<u>98.7</u>	<u>99.0</u>	<u>95.5</u>	<u>95.2</u>	<u>98.2</u>	<u>102.2</u>	<u>103.2</u>
6 Suicide/Self-Injury	100.0	97.6	95.3	94.3	89.4	88.9	91.7	93.9	92.5
7 Deaths from Substance Abuse	100.0	100.4	102.2	103.6	101.6	102.0	105.2	111.4	115.1
a Smoking	100.0	100.5	101.2	101.9	103.2	102.6	102.1	102.4	102.2
b Alcohol	100.0	97.5	96.2	95.0	94.8	94.7	95.6	95.3	96.5
c Other Drugs	100.0	103.2	109.7	114.9	107.3	109.4	119.1	141.5	154.8
Societal Index	100.0	96.3	99.8	98.7	98.1	96.2	98.8	93.6	92.8
<u>Government</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>87.5</u>	<u>115.7</u>	<u>119.0</u>	<u>123.3</u>	<u>117.7</u>	<u>127.9</u>	<u>110.5</u>	<u>111.5</u>
8 Correctional System	100.0	93.2	120.2	116.0	141.1	132.5	115.3	117.8	111.4
a Capital Punishment	100.0	79.4	129.1	117.2	167.0	143.2	110.0	117.2	106.3
b Nonviolent Incarceration	100.0	109.5	112.0	114.8	119.3	122.5	120.7	118.5	116.8
9 Law Enforcement	100.0	82.1	111.3	121.9	105.5	104.7	142.0	103.6	111.6
a Deaths by Police Intervention	100.0	103.2	94.7	104.1	100.6	87.9	104.8	98.4	111.5
b Abuse/Misconduct	100.0	65.2	130.9	142.9	110.7	124.5	192.3	109.1	111.7
<u>Corporate</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>87.8</u>	<u>86.1</u>	<u>88.0</u>	<u>85.1</u>	<u>83.0</u>	<u>83.6</u>	<u>79.9</u>	<u>76.3</u>

10	Air Pollution	100.0	81.0	81.3	86.4	81.9	79.5	81.3	77.9	73.5
	a People Experiencing Pollution	100.0	57.7	62.0	76.7	70.9	68.0	73.7	80.2	65.3
	b Ambient Pollution Level	100.0	95.4	92.5	92.4	91.7	88.5	90.7	76.4	80.8
	c Pollution Emitted	100.0	96.5	93.5	91.1	84.5	83.5	80.3	77.2	75.4
11	Consumers/Employees	100.0	95.2	91.3	89.6	88.3	86.7	86.0	81.9	79.2
	a Product Injuries	100.0	94.5	88.8	93.0	95.3	96.8	102.3	101.6	97.0
	b Occupational Injury/Illness	100.0	91.4	87.7	82.7	77.8	75.3	70.4	65.4	61.7
	c Occupational Fatalities	100.0	100.0	97.7	93.6	92.9	89.3	88.3	82.6	82.8
	Family	100.0	101.0	100.2	94.3	90.6	88.3	87.7	86.3	85.4
12	Domestic Violence	100.0	102.3	107.2	100.4	101.1	93.8	91.3	89.2	86.7
13	Child Abuse/Neglect	100.0	99.7	93.7	88.2	80.1	83.0	84.3	83.6	84.2
	Structural	100.0	101.0	99.6	98.3	99.0	97.3	99.8	95.9	95.7
14	Social Negligence	100.0	98.7	96.6	102.3	103.7	106.7	113.5	112.0	120.0
	a Lack of Health Insurance	100.0	101.3	104.5	105.8	101.1	100.4	103.2	107.7	110.3
	b Hunger	100.0	104.3	102.1	114.8	113.1	120.8	133.5	147.5	158.5
	c Drop-Out Rate	100.0	87.9	79.2	82.5	87.3	84.2	87.4	62.0	70.0
	d Homelessness	100.0	102.2	103.1	109.4	115.9	127.1	137.9	159.5	169.7
15	Infant Mortality/Life Expectancy	100.0	97.8	96.9	96.8	96.1	94.9	93.7	95.0	93.9
	a Infant Mortality	100.0	96.1	94.7	94.7	93.4	91.4	89.5	92.1	90.1
	b Life Expectancy	100.0	99.6	99.1	98.8	98.8	98.4	98.2	98.1	97.8
16	Hate Crimes	100.0	98.0	95.7	89.6	89.3	89.4	107.2	81.4	79.6
17	Employment Discrimination	100.0	89.1	92.1	89.6	86.7	88.6	89.8	93.3	88.3
18	Poverty Disparity	100.0	99.9	98.9	98.3	97.4	96.5	94.9	95.0	96.4
	a Class	100.0	103.3	105.9	105.2	106.4	106.4	109.2	109.5	113.4
	b Race	100.0	96.3	89.5	90.0	85.9	83.8	79.7	80.6	81.7
	c Gender	100.0	101.8	101.8	101.5	101.0	100.8	98.1	97.0	96.7
	d Age	100.0	98.3	99.0	97.3	91.6	90.7	87.4	85.7	89.2
19	Gang Membership	100.0	125.8	119.8	113.3	120.6	109.6	101.8	101.7	100.7

* = significant positive or negative trend (depending on correlation) at the .05 level; ** = significant tre

Copyright 2007, Manchester College Peace Studies Institute and Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Socia

VIOLENCE IS LEARNED

FSTV program "The Origins of Human Aggression: The Other Story": children learn violence developmentally via fear, anger. We are actually programmed to curb aggression, and that inherent tendency needs reinforcement.


See: *The Human Potential for Peace: An Anthropological Challenge to Assumptions about War and Violence* by Douglas Fry (Oxford UP, 2006). This was the subject of an OMNI BOOK FORUM in 2006.

HOW EMPATHY IS LEARNED

"Babes in arms help stop bullying"

<http://wwwstuff.co.nz/dominionpost/4290410a6000.html>

LANE NICHOLS - *The Dominion Post*, Wednesday, 28 November 2007

 "Once it's introduced to the classroom and they see it grow and eventually crawl, I think that will be quite a success. "I would think they would become quite protective of their little baby."

The \$1 million three-year trial is being partly funded by the education, health and social development ministries, and is supported by the children's commissioner. It was brought to New Zealand by the Peace Foundation. International research has shown it reduces aggression and bullying while encouraging empathy and pro-social behaviour in participating children.

ANDREW GORRIE/The Dominion Post

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Naenae Primary School pupil Tauroa Hodgson, 8, says babies are cute. Seen here making friends with three-month-old Jerome Campbell, he hopes to take part in the school's babies at school project next year.

At play yesterday with three-month-old Jerome Campbell, year 4 pupil Tauroa Hodgson, 8, said he liked babies "because they're cute" and hoped to take part in next year's class.

"They're funny sometimes, when they smile at you. My cousin's got one. It makes me laugh."

Other Wellington schools to take part are Holy Cross in Miramar, Karori West, Churton Park, Johnsonville, Koraunui in Stokes Valley, Rangikura in Ascot Park and Belmont.

The Peace Foundation hopes the project will eventually run at all New Zealand primary schools.

Alyn Ware

Director - The Peace Foundation Wellington Office
PO Box 24-429, Manners Street
Wellington, Aotearoa-New Zealand
alyn@lcnp.org
www.peace.net.nz

REPORTING VIOLENCE IN THE NEWSPAPERS

Several times a year, NWA newspaper reporters/columnists decry school violence. Peggy Treiber, *TMN* (1-28, "Antidote to Bullying Starts with Listening," is a good example. Her opening example about a group of 2nd graders (girls) ganging up on a boy. From there she goes on to tell about older children bullying others and their victims, including the Columbine boys, who had been picked on for years. She gives statistics ("Every day...more than 160,000 children miss school because they fear being bullied..."). And she offers a remedy: the Challenge Day Program (www.challengeday.org) brings together students of all kinds to listen to the fears and hopes of others. Short but the article felt complete.

Yet its brevity left out many crucial questions. How does violence originate? What is the connection among the many kinds of violence? Is violence systemic, a part of a culture (or absent from it)? Is violence intrinsic to our economic system of individualistic profit-making? How do US militarism and imperialism promote personal violence?

SENATOR LINCOLN (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

CONGRESSMAN Boozman: Lowell office: 479-725-0400.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

Dick Bennett
jbennet@uark.edu
(479) 442-4600
2582 Jimmie Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72703

