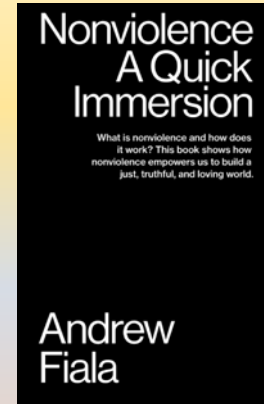


Nonviolence

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1

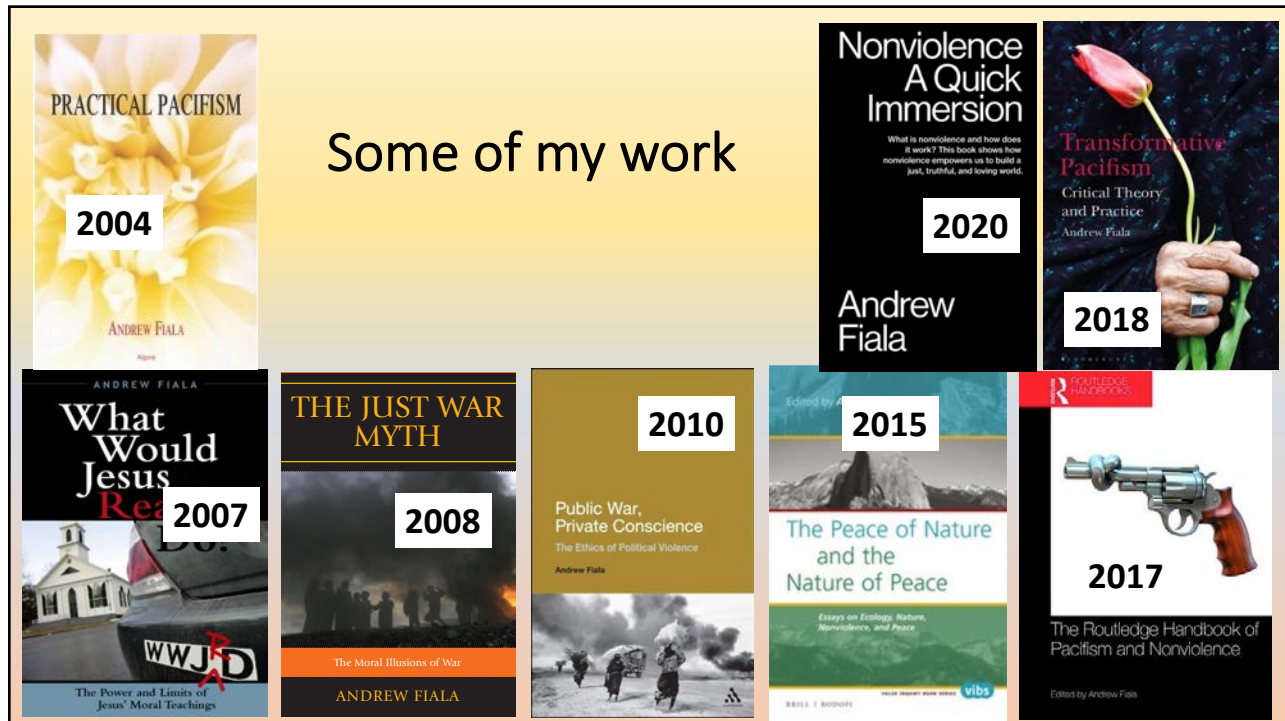
Sources and Inspirations



Concerned
Philosophers
for Peace



2



3

Pacifism and Nonviolence as a Normative Tradition : A Conversation about The Good

- Jesus, Socrates, Buddha
- Erasmus, Menno Simmons, George Fox, William Penn, Abbé Saint-Pierre, Immanuel Kant
- Adin Ballou, William Lloyd Garrison, Bronson Alcott, Leo Tolstoy, Mohandas K. Gandhi
- Jane Addams, William James, Dorothy Day, Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein, Albert Schweitzer, Martin Luther King, Jr., James Lawson, Rosa Parks, Daniel Berrigan, Cesar Chavez, Thomas Merton, Thich Nhat Hahn, Desmond Tutu, Pope John Paul II, Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama, John Howard Yoder, Stanley Hauerwas, Arne Naess, Johan Galtung, Robert Holmes, Andrew FitzGibbon, Barry Gan... Etc.

4

James Lawson

- “Nonviolence is a great way to talk about love. That is the love of God, the love of life, the love of one another.”



- Four Evils
 - Racism
 - Militarism
 - Sexism
 - Plantation Capitalism

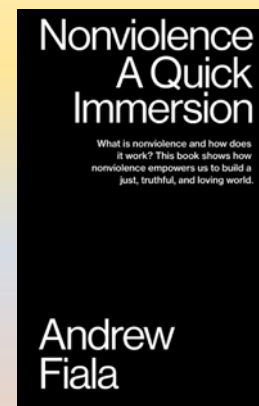


James Lawson, “Nonviolence and the Non-Existent Country” in Andrew Fiala, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of Pacifism and Nonviolence* (2017)

5

Problems & Definitions

- **Problem of Defining Nonviolence**
 - Depends on what “violence” is
 - Un-Violence, Violence-less-ness or Violence-free-action
 - Nonviolent coercion/force...?
 - Non-killing
- **Pacifism and its varieties**
 - Absolute vs. Conditional
 - Consequentialist vs. Deontological
 - Intuitive Pacifism = Peace as a fundamental value
- **Varieties of Nonviolence**
 - Non-Resistance
 - Non-Cooperation
 - Active Nonviolent Resistance

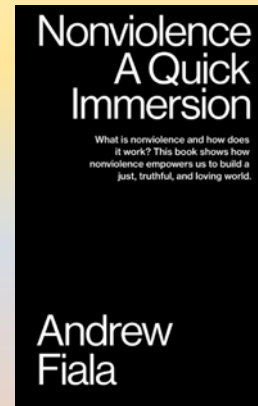


6

Nonviolence as Root or Flower?

- **Negative Nonviolence**
 - Emerges/develops out of prior violence (negation of violence)
 - A flower that develops out of (against) background of violence

- **Positive Nonviolence**
 - The root or background condition of genuine, life-affirming, and constructive power
 - An affirmative worldview

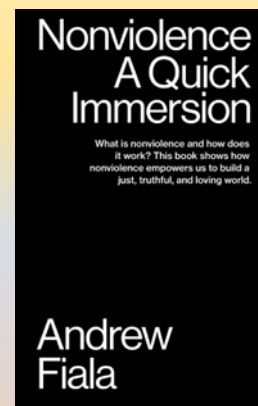


7

Comprehensive Nonviolence

- **Nonviolence is Bigger than Violence**
 - Nonviolence is loving.
 - Nonviolence is truthful.
 - Nonviolence is just.

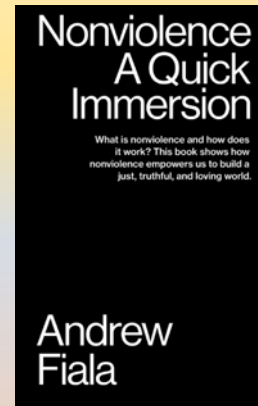
- **Expanding Circle of Concern**
 - Nonviolence toward friends/neighbors
 - Nonviolence toward universal humanity
 - Nonviolence toward all sentient beings



8

Problems in Defining Violence/Nonviolence

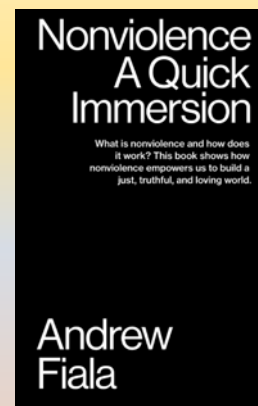
- **Varieties of Violence**
 - Direct vs. Indirect
 - Spectacular vs. Atmospheric
 - Structural/Institutional Violence
 - Cultural Violence
 - Factors: Vehemence, Harm, Consent
- **Nonviolence as the negation/opposite of these**
 - What would count as Direct/Spectacular Nonviolence?
 - Is there Structural Nonviolence?
 - What would a Culture of Nonviolence look like?



9

Ordinary Nonviolence vs. Heroic Nonviolence

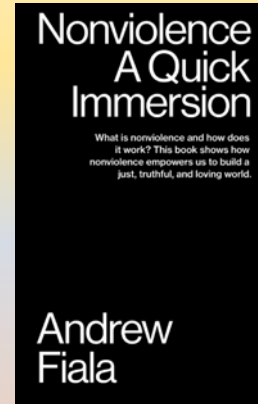
- **Heroic nonviolence**
 - Gandhi and King
 - Leadership and Sacrifice
- **Ordinary nonviolence:**
 - “Constructive Program” of ordinary life
 - Nonviolence for everyone?



10

Minimizing Violence and Seeking Alternatives

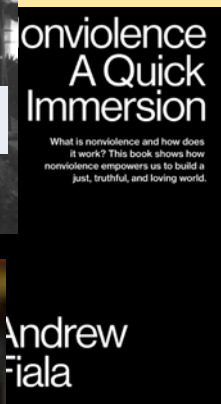
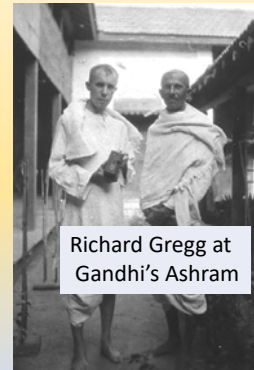
- **Preventative Nonviolence**
 - Education
 - Democratic Institutions
 - Social Solidarity
- **Nonviolent Defense**
 - Organized mass nonviolent resistance
 - Non-Cooperation and Disobedience
- **The power of the powerless**
 - Careful that this is not patronizing to the marginalized



11

Moral and Political Jiu-Jitsu

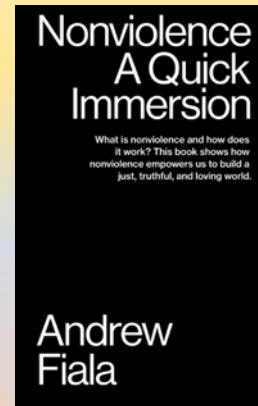
- **Richard Gregg (1885-1974): Moral Jiu-Jitsu**
 - Surprising and Creative responses to aggression and violence
 - Includes Voluntary Suffering
 - Ex.: “Turning the other cheek”
- **Gene Sharp (1928-2018): Political Jiu-Jitsu**
 - To become ungovernable
 - Mobilizing Solidarity
 - Ex. Images of oppression strengthen the resistance



12

Principled vs. Pragmatic Nonviolence

- **Principled Nonviolence**
 - Pacifism as a Worldview
 - Nonviolence because it is GOOD
- **Pragmatic Nonviolence**
 - Strategic Use of Nonviolence
 - Nonviolence because it WORKS
- **Democracy and Nonviolence**
 - Is Democracy GOOD or EFFECTIVE?
 - Nonviolence of ordinary democracy (voting, etc.) = defuses social tensions
 - Democratic Peace Theory: Democracies don't fight each other
 - BUT ALSO: human rights as ends in themselves



13

Methods of Nonviolence

- **Symbolic protest and persuasion**
 - Letter writing
 - Public Speaking
 - Graffiti?
 - Ex. Banksy
- **Non-cooperation**
 - Work slow-downs
 - Strike: Local and General
 - Boycotts: Economic and Political
 - Ex. Montgomery Bus Boycott
- **Intervention**
 - Civil Disobedience
 - Sabotage and Monkey-Wrenching



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