

*Unless we teach our children peace,  
someone else will teach them violence*  
—Colman McCarthy



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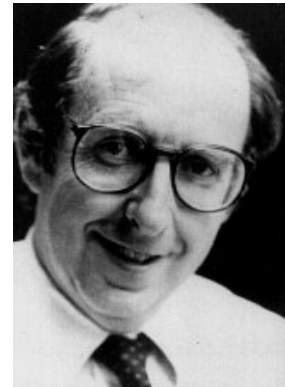
FORMER WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST  
& PROMINENT PEACE EDUCATOR  
TO SPEAK IN SANTA BARBARA, FEB. 15

Contact: Steven Crandell, 805 965-3443, [scrandell@napf.org](mailto:scrandell@napf.org)

One of the country's premier peace educators is coming to Santa Barbara next month, and his message will be clear:

*Unless we teach our children peace,  
someone else will teach them violence.*

Colman McCarthy is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center. In addition, he teaches classes at three Washington DC high schools. He wrote columns for the *Washington Post* for 28 years and founded the Center for Teaching Peace in 1985.



He will be presenting the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on February 15, 7:30 P.M. at SBCC's Fe Bland Forum. Admission is free.

The title of his talk is "Teach Peace," and he is calling for a significant change in our educational system.

McCarthy believes peace studies should be part of the core curriculum. He believes the philosophy of peace, the writings of great peace leaders and non-violent conflict resolution should be part of a very practical, community-oriented approach to education.

"What makes us happy is service to others," he says. "If schools don't expose students to the joys of community service, we graduate people who are idea rich but experience poor. In these addled times of leave no child untested, we think it's enough to pound ideas into the kids' heads. You can make all A's in school and go out and flunk life."

According to McCarthy, peace starts at home.

"It's too easy only to blame ... What's harder is self-examination ... What more should I be doing everyday to bring about a peace and justice-based world, whether across the ocean or across the living room?"

McCarthy will also speak to area students. (These large assemblies are one of his favorite formats for getting students to consider new ways of thinking. Please contact Steven Crandell at the Foundation for details as to where and when these assemblies will take place.)

McCarthy's visit here is very timely as it coincides with the launch of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's new program, *Santa Barbara, A Peace Community*, which aims to recruit, train and support 30 local peace leaders. (See attached PDF for recent column on the program. Or read copy at bottom of this release.) Interested potential peace leaders may contact the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation for more information.



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WANTED: 30 Santa Barbara County residents willing to become local peace leaders.

That's the goal of a new program run by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, a 501 ( c ) 3 charity which works for a world free of nuclear weapons.

Martin Luther King, Gandhi and Archbishop Desmond Tutu are examples of leaders who actively espoused peace and made the world a better place. They are the inspiration for our own efforts. We want to recruit at least 30 residents to become volunteer peace leaders serving our own communities.

They will be trained by the Foundation and then use our new (and free) DVD, "Nuclear Weapons and the Human Future" to inform at least 100 people each over the course of 2008. We'll help these leaders create strategies for raising awareness and then offer support throughout the year. The idea is to create a face-to-face educational campaign.

A successful program in Santa Barbara could then act as a model to spread peace and information on nuclear disarmament in other communities around the country.

Our experience is that most people don't know important facts about nuclear weapons – facts which could affect their future.

The opportunity for education is great – especially because it doesn't take long to inform someone. Here are four numbers and four questions that tell the story:

- How many nuclear weapons are there right now in the world? 26,000

- How many nuclear weapons are there on high alert, meaning they can be fired within minutes and detonated at the target site in less than an hour? *3,500*
- How many nuclear weapons does it take to kill a million people? *One.*
- The last time nuclear weapons were used *more than 200,000 people died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.* **So when should we use nuclear weapons again?**

The answer to the last question is deliberately left open. We want to encourage people to engage with this issue on a personal basis – to really consider what is the best path for the United States and the world.

A nuclear explosion would be a disaster – most people agree. Most people would also agree that preventing such a disaster is desirable.

*So what we're talking about is really public safety.* Not radical. Not partisan. Just common sense. But how can we decide if we want to do anything about such weapons if we aren't aware of the facts? That's where education is an essential step.

Nuclear weapons are designed to kill huge numbers of people. Civilians are the targets. Mothers. Fathers. Sons. Daughters. Grandparents. Grandchildren. Babies. We can protect these people. We can save lives by eliminating the threat.

Our local project will be connected with our new national campaign: "US Leadership for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World – An Appeal to the Next President." This campaign identifies clear, practical steps to a safer world – each one bringing us closer to abolishing nuclear weapons. .

Thanks to the generous support of our media sponsors, *CASA Magazine*, I'll be writing this column every week as part of our *Santa Barbara, A Peace Community* project. Call me (805 965-3443) if you are interested in becoming a peace leader or if you have a comment. Or email: [scrandell@napf.org](mailto:scrandell@napf.org).

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**The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation** -- The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation initiates and supports worldwide efforts to abolish nuclear weapons, to strengthen international law and institutions, and to inspire and empower a new generation of peace leaders. Founded in 1982, the Foundation is comprised of individuals and organizations worldwide who realize the imperative for peace in the Nuclear Age. The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan international education and advocacy organization. It has consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council and is recognized by the UN as a Peace Messenger Organization.

For more information about the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, see [www.wagingpeace.org/menu/about](http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/about)

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