



What is Peace?

- *an absence of dissension, violence, or war, a meaning found in the New Testament and possibly an original meaning of the Greek word for peace, Irene.*
- *is also seen as concord, or harmony and tranquility. It is viewed as peace of mind or serenity, especially in the East. It is defined as a state of law or civil government, a state of justice or goodness, a balance or equilibrium of Powers.*

A Holistic Understanding of Peace

Fritjof Capra

- Argued for the need for a change in thinking, about concepts and values, as a necessary first step to solve our many problems today, in his widely acclaimed book, *The Turning Point*.

Hugo Grotius

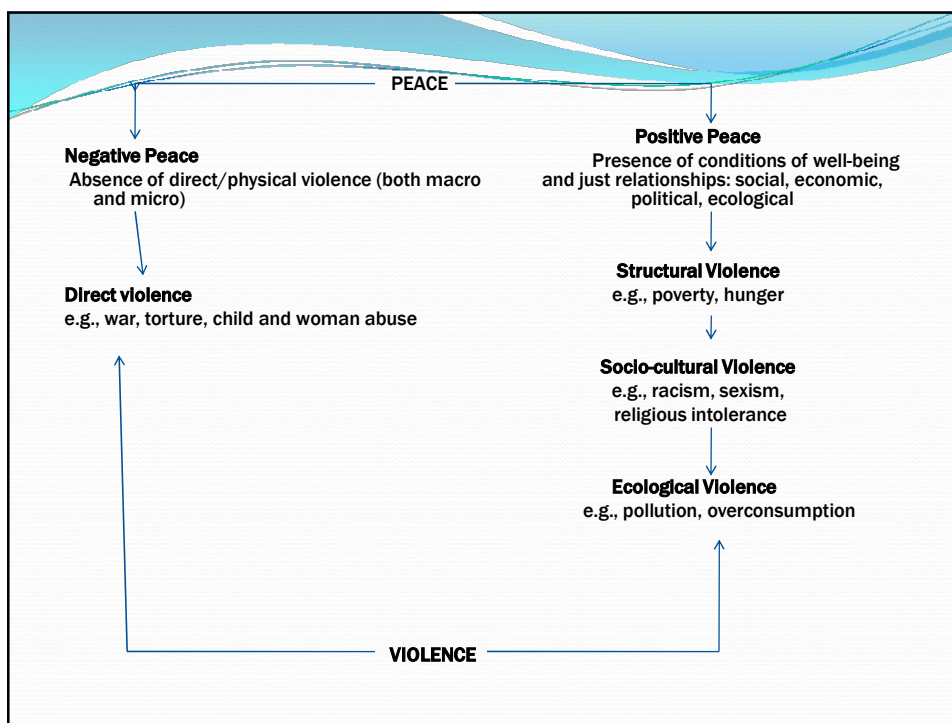
- Peace was defined as merely the absence of war or direct violence, in 1625.

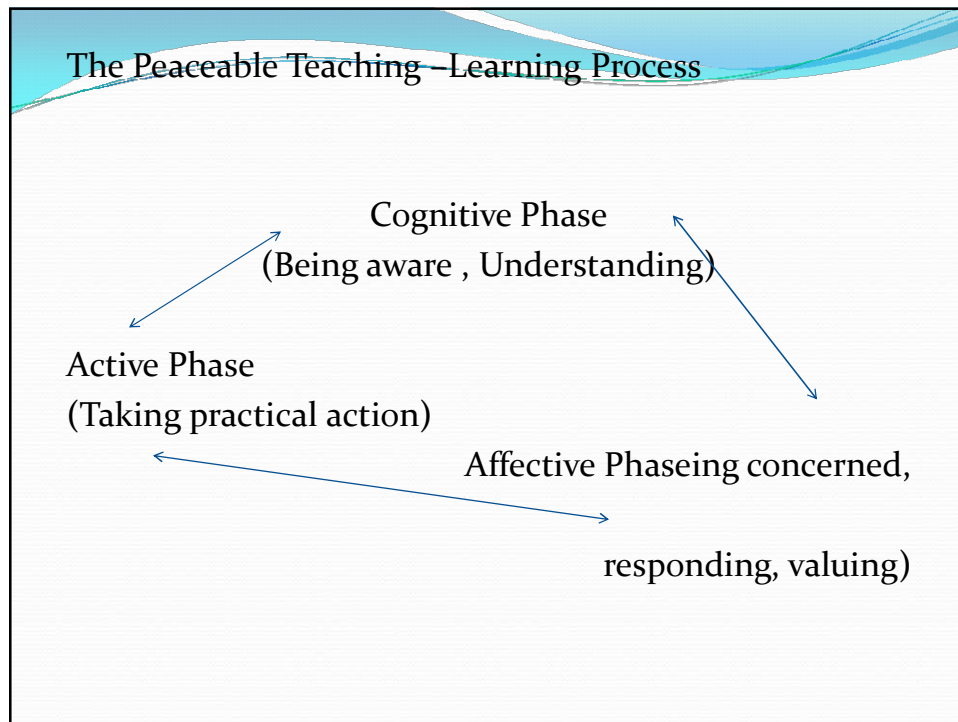
- In 1960's the alternative view about peace started to emerge. Attention started to shift from direct to indirect or structural violence such as ,ways in which people suffer from violence built into a society via its ***social, political, and economic systems***.
- Structural Violence also led to death and suffering because of the conditions that resulted from it: ***extreme poverty, starvation, avoidable diseases, discrimination against minority groups and denial of human rights***.

Johan Galtung

–a renowned peace theorists and researcher, argues that structural violence occurs when the wealth of affluent nations, groups or individuals is based on the labor and the essential resources drawn from nations,, groups or individuals who, as a consequence, are required to live diminished lives of deprivation.

–he formulates ***“Peace as the absence of violence and the presence of social justice”***





WHY EDUCATE FOR PEACE?

“ There are many campaigns that are working on a variety of issues which must be addressed if this new century is not to carry forward the legacy of the twentieth century, the most violent and war-filled in history. All these campaigns are needed if we are to sow seeds without education. . . Hague Appeal for Peace has decided that to sustain a long-term change in the thought and action of future generations. . .our best contribution would be to work on peace education.”

PEACE EDUCATION IS A PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE

- ❑ Educating for peace will give us in the long run the practical benefits that we seek.
- ❑ Peace education challenges the long-held belief that wars cannot be avoided.
- ❑ Political advocacy of non-violent resolution of conflict is a key element of peace education and you can just imagine the benefits that will be reaped when this becomes the dominant mindset and value in our world

PEACE EDUCATION IS AN ETHICAL IMPERATIVE

Educating for peace is an ethical imperative considering the negation of life and well-being caused by all forms of violence. The ethical systems of the major world faith traditions, humanitarian ethics and even primal and indigenous spirituality have articulated principles that inspire the striving for peace.

EDUCATION FOR PEACE: LIST OF KNOWLEDGE AREAS, SKILLS AND ATTITUDES/VALUES

Knowledge/Content Areas

1. Holistic Concept for Peace
2. Conflict and Violence
3. Some Peaceful Alternatives
 - a. Disarmament
 - b. Nonviolence
 - c. Conflict Resolution, Transformation and Prevention
 - d. Human Rights
 - e. Human Solidarity
 - f. Development Based on Justice
 - g. Democratization
 - h. Sustainable Development

Attitudes/Values

1. Self respect
2. Respect for Others
3. Respect for Life/Nonviolence
4. Gender Equality
5. Compassion
6. Global Concern
7. Ecological Concern
8. Cooperation
9. Openness/Tolerance
10. Justice
11. Social Responsibility
12. Positive Vision

Skills

1. Reflection
2. Critical Thinking and analysis
3. Decision-Making
4. Imagination
5. Communication
6. Conflict Resolution
7. Empathy
8. Group building

THE END