

Sustaining Human Relationship Systems

Using Anthropology and Nonviolence to Reframe Conflict Issues

FROM: fragmented, polarized thinking -- that leads us toward extremes

TO: holistic, complex "organic" thinking -- that leads us toward system balance

"Organic Balance and Every Day Nonviolence as Conceptual and Organizing Principles for Change"

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This poster session uses drawings to share my ideas underlying "every day nonviolence," a term I use in my work adapting the teachings and techniques of the global nonviolence movement in a university setting. I use the organizing principle of organic balance, mandatory for system health, to show why nonviolence strategies, tactics and tools are the most constructive way to solve problems at any and all levels: intrapersonal, interpersonal, community, global, and even in the relationship between humans and the earth and humans and the universe. I suggest further that adopting nonviolence as an overarching language for public discourse can help us transcend extremism and promote both personal initiative and collaborative action for progressive social change and long-term sustainability.

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