

# Peace and Nonviolence Education Australasia Digest Update 5: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Compiled by Brendan McKeague and Michael Wood

[www.peaceandnveducation.org](http://www.peaceandnveducation.org)

## **1) Raising Peace Festival Australia (online) Sept. 16-26**



THE **Raising Peace Festival** is starting this week. **33 FREE** online events are on offer - check the interactive calendar on <https://raisingpeace.org.au/> - click the yellow **Peace Festival Program** button to see events on each day. Hover mouse over each event for description and click event title for full details.

Tickets for all events available from Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/raising-peace-festival-tickets-167984773981and> click the green **Register** button to select the list and register for those you wish to attend.

A zoom link for each event will be sent to people who have registered **1 hour** before their event is due to start.

### **Of particular interest to Peace Educators may be:**

i) a discussion offered by Pax Christi NSW at **8am (WST)/10am (EST) Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September** featuring a nonviolence movie: **The Third Harmony** <https://raisingpeace.org.au/event/film-the-third-harmony/>.

The movie will be made available for registered people to watch online from Friday 17th September (7am (WST) 9am (EST)) to Sunday 19th September (7.30am (WST) 9.30 am (EST)).

The movie can be watched any time before joining the discussion session at 10am with Michael Nagler, Keith Suter and others.

(ii) **On Sat 25<sup>th</sup> September (12pm WST/2pm EST)** Brendan McKeague will be sharing his experience developing and piloting a program

**'Peace and Nonviolence Education in Schools'**

<https://raisingpeace.org.au/event/peace-and-nonviolence-education-in-schools/>



## 2) Afghanistan

Pace e Bene Australia invites you to consider **two immediate actions** in response to the current situation in Afghanistan:

i) **Provide funds/donations** for material resources and on-the-ground, local support via [Mahboba's Promise](#), a well respected, genuine and grounded Afghanistan-based community network organisation, initiated and supported in Australia.

Also, well worth having a look at the beautiful film-doco, [The Garden at the End of the World](#) (50mins) which provides a bigger picture perspective on the country.

ii) **Lobby local Federal MP's** to urge the Government to increase compassionate, humanitarian actions suggested by the [Edmund Rice Centre](#) and others

**and....some further information for potential background to learning activities:**

### **The War on Terror - winners and losers.**

**How to 'wash wealth upwards'**....the real purpose and intentions of those who initiate, validate and substantiate war. How the dominant culture 'monsterises humans, and humanises monsters! We cannot achieve 'liberation through occupation'...

Lowkey is a veteran UK peace activist and singer - very articulate and well informed....

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIDchC\\_70s0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIDchC_70s0)

*"The people who really are the "winners" in all of this — and in the history of U.S. occupation and invasion — are the military contractors, the ones who manufacture the war planes and the bombs and the drones, and the Hellfire missiles and the Apache helicopters and the material for building bases and equipping soldiers. Those are the people who win in these situations."*

Kathy Kelly, veteran peace activist

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/ncr-connections/q-activist-kathy-kelly-afghanistan-us-withdrawal-and-whats-next>

### **'Saving' Afghan Women, Now**

The status of Afghanistan's women is a separate question from the presence of American troops.

[‘Saving’ Afghan Women, Now - The American Prospect](#)

### **Was the US Failure in Afghanistan Inevitable?**

[www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/theminefield/was-us-failure-in-afghanistan-inevitable/13513814](http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/theminefield/was-us-failure-in-afghanistan-inevitable/13513814)

### **The US Endgame in Afghanistan Was Mineral Extraction, Not Democracy**

[Common Dreams](#), 25/08/21

### **As US exits Afghanistan, China eyes \$1 trillion in minerals**

[Al Jazeera](#)

Afghanistan, now under the control of the Taliban, is sitting on what could be the world’s largest lithium reserves, among other precious deposits...

## **3) Nonviolence and terrorism – classroom resource**

*How would nonviolence respond to terrorism - how realistic is this approach?*

This [animation](#) on Youtube (5mins) is from a series on Nonviolence and the New Story, a project of the Metta Center for Nonviolence. Learn more about nonviolence at [www.mettacenter.org](http://www.mettacenter.org)

*"Those who make peaceful revolution impossible, will make violent revolution inevitable."* JFK [Remarks on the first anniversary of the Alliance for Progress, 13 March 1962 - see the delivery [here](#), 37secs]"