## For students who are passionate about ending war, share this book.

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Read reviews <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Below is a preview of some of the content of the book.

## 1. Reject the Glorification of War and Violence

Glorifying war and violence as the triumph of heroic masculinity makes it easy to sell war as the best possible solution to international conflicts.... The world is slowly and steadily moving away from war, with fewer wars each year. The result is that selling war is becoming more difficult because the public knows there are alternatives to bombing and killing. Action:

- Turn off the TV. Demand entertainment that will help us raise children who respect others, who are compassionate and who care about the world we live in.
- Speak out against war by challenging the images that show war as a glorious, patriotic endeavour and ignore the infliction of pain and the injury, suffering and death for political gain.
- Walk out of movies that are violent, especially when the violence is senseless. Ask for your money back as you leave. Phone or write the advertisers who sponsor violent TV programs. If you find violent films shown on an airline, write to their public relations department.

## 2. Learn and Use Nonviolent Conflict Resolution

## 3. Refuse to be an Enemy

- Make friends around the world
- Make a lantern, fold a crane

## 4. Stand up and Speak Out

- Follow the example of Samantha Smith who wrote to a world leader about her fears of war and who received a response.
- Call a Peace Vote. The Children's Peace Movement in Colombia has been nominated 3 times for the Nobel Peace Prize for its actions. They held a peace vote in which 2.7 million children voted on which human right was the most important. They voted overwhelmingly for the right to life and peace.

## 5. Organize Student Action

- Follow the example of the SAGE Tour (Students Against Global Exterminataion)

- Organize a teach-in to give information about a current issue. Invite speakers, make handouts, and have an action to be done: a petition, a demonstration, posters to make
- Lead a workshop for students who want to learn public speaking and facilitation skills. Practise with microphones. Develop a sound bite that could be used if you were interviewed.
- Notify local TV reporters and college or community radio stations about your activities. You are attractive, articulate, committed and idealistic.... Just what looks great in the media!
- Set up a film night. Ask an expert to speak after the film.
- Run role-playing exercises in conflict resolution.

# 6. Grab the Media.

- Give a TV award to a channel that does not promote violence on Saturday morning TV for kids.
- Produce a radio program at your local university radio studio.
- Write a blog and send it to PeaceQuest.ca for possible publication.
- Create an online petition with Avaaz.
- Media Pointers:
  - $\circ$  Practice using a microphone.
  - Write notes on a small file card but don't read from it.
  - For radio, write 2 key words on the card to remind yourself of the 2 points you want to make.
  - Practice a few times to see if you say "uh" or "like". With a bit of practice, you won't.
  - For TV, read your notes over and then leave them behind. When you are interviewed, look at the person asking you questions, not the monitor. Speak slowly and clearly.
  - Come up with a very short statement of your view and learn to say it easily.
  - Tell your personal story: your reaction to a news item or a film.
    Explain why it's important to you to take action.
  - Write a letter to the editor explaining that you are a youth with a desire to speak out.
  - For inspiration, watch <u>Severn Suzuki speak at the UN Conference</u> on <u>Environment Development</u> when she was only 14 and <u>Malala Yousafzai who spoke at the UN</u> in 2013, on her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday on the importance of education.