Good news for a nonviolent future

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The study of violence and nonviolence
Current impediments

- Wrong beliefs about HUMAN NATURE
- Short-sightedness of history
- Ignorance about biological and cultural evolution
- Poor cultural tradition about asking questions
- Origin of violence? Origin of nonviolence?
- Too much disciplinary specialisation at university
- This topic needs a MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH
History and War
= prejudice about violence
Two ideas about violence = two types of Peace Studies

HUMAN NATURE IS VIOLENT
= DIPLOMACY AND WEAK ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE

HUMAN NATURE IS NONVIOLENT
= A NONVIOLENT REVOLUTION IS POSSIBLE
SEVEN SCIENTIFIC PIECES OF EVIDENCE

- Origin of Violence
- Palaeolithic Rock Art
- Contemporary Nomadic Hunter-Gatherer
- Wolf Children
- Nonviolent Human Nature
- Freud Discontent
- Mother and Child Relationship
- Brain Development
- Bio - Cultural Evolution
- Definition of Social Behaviour
Before Present

**TIME LINE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION**

x1000 years BP

- **H. sapiens**
- **modern Man (art)**
- **food production (Middle East)**

**Before Present**

- G - C
- G -
- C
- 
- Violence and war

- 200
- 50
- 40
- 30
- 20
- 10
- 6
40,000 years of rock art without violence
Social behaviour of contemporary nomadic hunter-gatherers

# Small communities
# Women look after children
# Women collect fruits and vegetable
# Women hunt small animals
# Men hunt large animals
# Everybody is able to find water
# Respect for natural resources

# When a conflict of interest appears, members of the community soon consult to prevent a conflict (nonviolent solution)
Production of food was invented three times independently.

It led every time to a human tragedy (too large cities, violence, power systems and war). We called it instead civilisation (!)

- Middle East 12,000 BP
- Southern China 9,000 BP
- Central America 6,000 BP
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TIME LINE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION
x1000 years BP

H. sapiens
modern Man (art)
food production (Middle East)
violece and war

200 50 40 30 20 10 6
Postnatal definition of brain and behaviour

Frontal lobe

One-month old baby
Cultural diversity
### Origin of violence (war) – Valcamonica

**Italy**

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<th>Chalcolithic</th>
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[Image: Depiction of Chalcolithic artifacts related to violence and warfare.]
For many years Dr James W. Prescott has suggested that children should be breast fed for at least two years and need cuddling and stroking by mothers in the first years of their life, in order to express normal empathy (oxytocin) solidarity and cooperation when adult.
Violent passive entertainment
A COMPARISON
Palaeolithic vs “Civilisation”

- Empathy
- Solidarity
- Cooperation
- Nonviolent solutions
- Spirituality
- Suspicion
- Egoism
- Competition
- Violent solutions
- Materialism

- Are we still human beings?
The possible solution
A nonviolent, slow, legal and local revolution

SHORT – TERM AIMS

- Help adults just to become aware of the recent origin and of the cultural origins of structural violence and war
- Protect adolescents from individualism, consumerism and violent entertainment

LONG – TERM AIMS

- Help adolescents to preserve idealism, change life style and to become new parents
- Offer children new social models in order to become nonviolent active citizens
- Allows CORRECT mother–child relationships.
These little geniuses acquire very easily bipedal gate, more than one language, and manual skills.

This because at the same time they are establishing nerve connections for those tasks.

If handled as advised by J.W. Prescott, they produce enough oxytocin to become empathic and nonviolent.
After sale service

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