

[[read more and to order](#)]

'Civilian Casualties'

This film follows four Americans on a delegation to Afghanistan in January of 2002 to share their grief and offer their condolences to Afghan families who lost loved ones in the U.S. bombing. (60 min.)
[[More Info](#) or [civiliancasualties.com](#)]

OTHER

Family Steering Committee for the 9/11 Independent Commission

- In the fall of 2001, Family Steering Committee members began the first of many trips to Washington D. C. to demand that Congress create legislation for an **independent investigation into the September 11th terrorist attacks.**



Support the Nonviolent Peaceforce by

Working a Day for Peace in September 2003 and donating a day's wages to the Peaceforce. Funds raised will help to support our **pilot project** in Sri Lanka and further the development of the Peaceforce.

One Day's Pay - 'If you believe, as we do, that making September 11 a National Day of Service is an appropriate, meaningful legacy for our lost loved ones, then please take an active role in supporting this initiative.'

Search Peaceful Tomorrows:

Fair Use Notice

Support for Peaceful Tomorrows comes from many individual donations and from the

Afghan women fighting for human rights and for social justice in Afghanistan

The Afghan Women's Mission

Works closely with RAWA to support health, educational, and other programs for Afghan women.

Women for Afghan Women

WAW is a collective of Afghan and non-Afghan women from the New York area who are committed to ensuring the human rights of Afghan women.

Alliance for Jewish-Christian-Muslim Understanding

Created in the wake of September 11, 2001, its mission is to build bridges between people of the three Abrahamic religions.

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Three Years Later: Peaceful Tomorrows 9/11/04 Statement

Nearly three years ago, September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows was born out of a shared belief that America's military response to the 9/11 attacks which took our loved ones' lives would result in the deaths of countless innocent civilians and increase recruitment for terrorist causes, making the United States, and the world, less safe and less free for generations to come.

Today, as we commemorate September 11, 2004, we find that our worst fears have been realized. The terrorism of September 11th has been neither neutralized, nor ended, by the terrorism of war.

Since our bombing and military action in Afghanistan, resulting in the deaths of more than 130 American troops and an estimated 4,000 civilians – and compounded by our failure to rebuild that broken nation--we have seen the return of Taliban warlords, the departure of relief agencies, and the continuing deaths of American service people and innocent civilians. Afghan President Hamid Karzai has acknowledged that he is seeking the support of former Taliban officials in an effort to stabilize the political process. Osama bin Laden remains at large, and al-Qaeda remains a potent terrorist force, as evidenced by the March 11 train bombings in Madrid, Spain.

Our illegal, immoral and unjustified invasion of Iraq, a nation that had nothing to do with the September 11th attacks, has cost the lives of 1,000 American troops and an estimated 12,000 Iraqi civilians, while leaving tens of thousands of others physically and emotionally traumatized. Today, our continuing occupation, our failure to provide basic services like electricity and water, and our torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib has turned Iraq into a focus of anti-American sentiment where a new generation of terrorists is being recruited from around the world.

In Guantanamo, approximately 600 detainees from 40 countries remain incarcerated without charge and without access to lawyers. Those who have been returned to their home countries attest to conditions that violate the Geneva Conventions and our own democratic principles. In America, the USA Patriot Act gives government free reign to surveil law-abiding citizens. Restrictions on peaceful protest mock our Constitutional guarantees of freedom of

Dec 2003

Patriot Act Overreaching

by Adele Welty
Sep 2003

Mourner's Morning

by David Potorti
Sep 2003

Personal Statement on 9-11

by Sue Rosenblum
September 2003

The Everyday, Small, Good Things in Life

by Andrea LeBlanc
September 2003

Bridges of Understanding

by Wright Salisbury
September 2003

The Ongoing Process

by Paula Shapiro
September 2003

September 11, a day of national self-examination

by Jim and Barbara Fyfe
Sep 2003

On Rising Above Fear to Make a Better World

by Beverly Eckert
August 2003

Reflections of a Grieving Father

by John Titus
August, 2003

Speech to the International Meeting of the 2003 Conference Against A&H Bombs

by Terry Rockefeller
August, 2003

Speech to WAND (Women's Actions for New Directions)

by Terry Rockefeller
May 19, 2003

Finding Peace in the Midst of Tragedy and Pain

by John Titus
May 17, 2003

Some Questions for Dick Cheney

by Andrew Rice

Mothers Day Speech

by Paula Shapiro

More original writing in **Voices** Italian, Spanish, French and German Translations are available

following foundations:

Agape
American Friends Service
Committee
AJ Muste Foundation
Baker Brook Foundation
Colombe
Compton Foundation
Equity Trust
Ford Foundation
Funding Exchange
Northstar
Pascal Foundation
Ploughshares
Rex Foundation
Samuel Rubin Foundation
Stewart Mott Charitable Trust
Tides Foundation
Working Assets Foundation



speech and assembly. Meanwhile, bias crimes and discrimination continue to cast a shadow over our nation.

That all of this has been done in the names of our loved ones who died on September 11th makes the suffering of their innocent counterparts around the world even harder to take. When actions that are making the world less secure are carried out in the name of US security, we must reconsider the true sources of the security, freedom, and respect we once commanded around the globe.

Is the source of our security and freedom the exercise of overwhelming military power? Have we found security and freedom by dividing the world into "us and them," and labeling entire nations "evil"? Three years ago, the French declared, "We are all Americans," and Iranians held spontaneous candlelight vigils for our dead. Today, American prestige is at an all-time low. Friend and foe alike tremble at the sense of exceptionalism that drives America to conduct pre-emptive war.

And what example have we set by our use of violence as a tool for addressing complex grievances? In the past week, heartbreaking pictures of children abducted and killed in Russia remind us that terrorism against civilian populations, which did not begin on September 11th, has not abated as a result of our actions since then. In Iraq, abductions of more than 40 civilians from nations including Japan, Jordan, Italy, China, Ukraine, South Korea, Egypt, Nepal, India, Kenya, the Philippines, Bulgaria and our own have escalated the level of human suffering.

On September 11th, 2002, we urged America to participate fully in the global community, by honoring international treaties, endorsing and participating in the International Criminal Court, following the United Nations charter, and agreeing in word and action to the precepts of international law. Today, we redouble our call for America to return to full membership in the community of nations.

We call for an end to war as our nation's one blunt instrument of foreign policy in our increasingly complex world. We recognize that our freedoms and security derive not from politicians or the Pentagon, but from our Constitution, and call on all Americans to rise in its defense against the triple threats of fear, lies and ignorance.

Finally, we draw hope from those around the globe whose historical experiences of terrorism and war have brought them not to a place of vengeance, but to a commitment to creating a peaceful world. They include victims of the violence in Israel and Palestine; families of victims of the Bali nightclub bombing; family members of those killed in Oklahoma City; atomic bomb survivors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki; those who survived the bombing of Guernica, Spain and Dresden, Germany; those affected by terrorism in Kenya; Cambodia; Chechnya; South Africa; Northern Ireland; Bosnia; Sri Lanka and elsewhere. Through their witness and their efforts towards reconciliation, they have demonstrated that peace begins in the heart of every individual, and that people united have an unparalleled power to change the world.

Featured Media

more in [Media Coverage](#)

July 7, 2004

Naomi Klein - Editorial
[The Globe and Mail](#)

May 19, 2004

Sept. 11 Families Make Presence Known
[Fox News](#)

April 13, 2004

9/11 family interview
[BBC "The World"](#)

Alternet

Defending Peaceful Tomorrows
[March 16, 2004](#)

PR Newswire

Tides Foundation and Tides Center Statement Regarding Recent Scrutiny over Heinz Endowments
[March 16, 2004](#)

New York Times

Heck, No? Antiwar Voices Persist, Softly
[February 13, 2004](#)

Mother Jones Magazine

Snoop Dreams
[September 12, 2003](#)

New York Daily News

Thousands march in peace vigil
[September 11, 2003](#)

Washington Post

For New Yorkers, Memory of Shared Loss
[September 11, 2003](#)

Alternet.org

The Peaceful Response to 9/11
[September 11, 2003](#)

Le Figaro

antiguerre depuis la mort de son frère
[September 11, 2003](#)

Voice of America

FAMILIES of 9-11 Victims Promote Book for Peace
[September 11, 2003](#)

Taipei Times, Taiwan

FAMILIES of victims to hold vigil at Ground Zero
[September 11, 2003](#)

Reuters

Range of emotions displayed in Sept. 11 quotes
[September 11, 2003](#)

New Zealand Herald

DON'T politicize Ground Zero, victims' families warn leaders
[September 11, 2003](#)

New York Newsday

Ashcroft Circus Comes to Town
[September 10, 2003](#)

Every day, we choose to create the world we want to live in, through our words and through our actions. Today, we reach out to others around the world who recognize that war is not the answer. Today, three years after September 11th, we continue to choose peace.

--September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows
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9/11/04 Message of Solidarity to Peaceful Tomorrows from Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Dear Members of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows,

We, the members of HANWA (Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition) would like to send you our renewed message of empathy and solidarity as the third anniversary of the 9/11 is around the corner. It is almost three years now since the tragedy engulfed you. Time flies, indeed!

Certainly, such a fateful and sorrowful day cannot be buried in oblivion for any body, but especially for the bereaved family members like you. The chagrin may not disappear for a long time. You must be remembering the days when you searched around for your lover, sister, brother, daughter, son, mother, father, cousin, other relatives, friends, etc. through rubbles at the WTC-- we know some of you have lost your loved one at the Pentagon, too. Most of you must be pondering over the dreary, depressing days of anger, frustration, emptiness, despair, and exhaustion following the disaster.

Your experience resembles what hundreds of thousands of the citizens in Hiroshima and Nagasaki experienced fifty nine years ago. Even after more than half a century they still suffer deep anguish of the sudden loss of their loved ones. Your grief, however, must be far more acute and painful as it was only three years ago.

That you have overcome your despair, and continuously transmitted to the world over your message of peace instead of violence, love instead of hatred, and solidarity instead of vengeance, has not only inspired the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki but also encouraged us significantly in that we can build up our hopes for the future of the world. Your message does correspond to the affirmation here: No More Hiroshima! No More Nagasaki! In this mission of non-violence and peace we feel a powerful spiritual bond between you and us.

During the last three years, people in Afghanistan and Iraq had to endure the destruction of war and the ensuing misery. We cannot and should not forget that multitude of them have lost their relatives and friends exactly like you and us. It is the same in Palestine, Afghanistan, Iraq, and most recently in Beslan, Russia.

The world is becoming more dangerous and violent due to the prevailing Weltanschauung, i.e. a philosophy that might is right. To counter violence by violence breeds more violence. It amounts to a vicious circle. The only solution is to address the root causes of violence that are poverty, prejudice, discrimination, inequality, injustice, greed and jingoism. The members of Peaceful Tomorrows and the Hibakusha together with citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have learned this simple truth which they would like to share with others.

Democracy Now
**9/11 TWO YEARS LATER
Victims' Families Call For
Peaceful Tomorrows**
September 10, 2003

Guardian UK
The torturers' picnic
September 8, 2003

Boston Globe
**Bridging the gap among
religions...**
September 8, 2003

New York Newsday
**Group to create 'circles of
hope' in memory of Sept. 11
victims**
September 8, 2003

Capital Times
**Victims' kin, Bush take
different paths**
September 8, 2003

Press Democrat
**For Family of 9/11 Victim,
Wars Add to Feeling of Loss...**
September 7, 2003

Herald Sun
**Sept. 11 spurs peace
movement, book**
September 3, 2003

New York Times
**Protest Groups Planning for
Republican Convention**
August 10, 2003

Fayetteville Morning News
**Brother Of Sept. 11 Victim
Advocates Peace**
August 4, 2003

Between The Lines Radio
**White House Obstructs 9/11
Investigation - Interview with
David Potorti** [6 Meg mp3 link.
Interview starts at 5 min 45 sec]
August 1, 2003

Cape Cod Times
**Filling up Holes in National
Security**
July 29, 2003

Washington Post
**Hill's 9/11 Probe Finds
Multiple Failures**
July 25, 2003

New York Times
**Old Soldiers and Voices
Fading Away**
May 27, 2003

New York Times
**In the Den of Dissent, Mostly
Satisfaction Mixed With
Unease**
April 9, 2003

New York Times
**Antiwar Effort Emphasizes
Civility Over Confrontation**
March 29, 2003

The Wall Street Journal
**Widows Oppose Bush's Effort
To Link Iraq War and Sept. 11**
March 19, 2003

Terrorism is rampant all over the world. However, we think war is a state-terror and nuclear war will be the most heinous terror that one can ever think of. The Russell-Einstein Manifesto concludes that war must be abolished, for so long as war exists national leaders cannot resist the temptation to resort to the most powerful weapons of the day, nuclear weapons.

This year also, therefore, on August 6th in Hiroshima and on 9th in Nagasaki, people from all over Japan and overseas gathered there together and renewed our pledge of "No More Hiroshima!" and "No More Nagasaki!" and have shared our determination to create the culture of peace and non-violence.

We hear you have been libeled as coward as many Americans today tend to justify violent means to solve conflicts. Do not be discouraged in your endeavor for peace, love, and truth. We are with you and the history will be on your side. For, love conquers all things (Amor omnia vincit)!

With love from Hiroshima,

THE HIROSHIMA ALLIANCE FOR NUCEAR WEAPONS ABOLITION (HANWA) Directors: Ms. Moritaki Haruko, Mr. Kawai Goro, and Dr. Okamoto Mitsuo [[return to top](#)]

Letter from Peaceful Tomorrows to Russian families touched by terrorism

To the Families of August 24, 2004

From the September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows August 24, 2004 is a date that will stay in your memories as September 11, 2001 has stayed in ours.

Please accept our deepest and heartfelt condolences for the loss of your loved ones, friends, and family members. We know the meaning of such a tragedy and we join together, the September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, in offering our friendship to you. We are far away in miles but we are with you in our feelings.

There will be speculation and investigation. There will be newspaper and television stories re-living the calamity that has forever changed your lives. We hope that you will be able, as we have been able, to turn the immense energies grief into mighty energies for Peace. Your time of shock will give way to a time of mourning. Mourning will give way to healing, and this healing will bring you a bit of peace, in time.

You are not alone. We join with you. We will be thinking of you always for you are now in our hearts. If there is anything we can do to ease your way, and then please ask. We can easily be reached by email and will always be willing to answer.

In genuine friendship and love,
September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows

You can always contact us through <http://www.peacefultomorrows.org/contact.html>
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Washington Post
9/11 Families Fight Tears And a New War
March 19, 2003

New York Newsday
Last-Ditch Protests on Capital's Streets
March 18, 2003

CNN
Dozens of anti-war protesters arrested outside Capitol
March 18, 2003

Washington Times
Protests continue amid looming war
March 17, 2003

Fort Wayne News Sentinel
Antiwar groups keep protesting on eve of war
March 17, 2003

Juneau Empire
Sept. 11 victim's brother to speak in Juneau
March 16, 2003

Washington Post
'Direct Action' Seen as Next Step If War Begins
March 15, 2003

Associated Press
Anti-War Protesters Arrested Near Capitol
March 13, 2003

The Guardian UK
'I'm not going to respond to terrorism by becoming a terrorist'
February 22, 2003

CNN
Unexpected stories behind war protesters
February 15, 2003

Village Voice
Don't Fence Them In
February 12

Washington Post
Women Put Faith To Work for Peace
January 30

Washington Post
A River of Peaceful People
January 23, 2003

Council Bluffs Daily
Tinley: Peace a common goal for Iraqi people
January 21, 2003

Boston Globe
War talk makes Iraq a peace stop
January 18, 2003

Chicago Tribune
Protesting war, groups battle stereotypes too
January 17, 2003

Pacifica's Peace Watch
Families of 9-11 Victims Travel to Iraq [mp3 download - starts at 10:12 into the file]

PLAINFIELD MAYUR'S HUGE WINE SALE AND BENEFIT FOR SEPTEMBER 11TH FAMILIES FOR PEACEFUL TOMORROWS

September 11th and 12th 10am-6pm at Plainfield's on 21st and SW Taylor, Portland, Oregon

Media Contact:
Jimme' Peters
503/289-5354
jimme@24-7consulting.com

PORTLAND, OR-- Plainfield Mayur restaurant is pleased to announce the dates of September 11-12 from 10am-6pm for the enormous wine sale and charity event. The \$5.00 admission includes a commemorative glass and twenty wine tasting tickets. 100% of the admission fee benefits September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows.

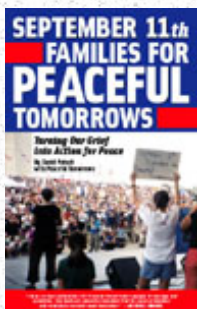
Over 22,000 bottles of wine from all regions of the world have been acquired from a wholesaler that was closing its business. High quality selections of Rieslings, cabernets, merlots, chardonnays, and champagne varieties are available for purchase. Cases of wine are beginning at \$12 each, which is 75% off retail pricing.

Wine tasting of some of the world's great wines and complimentary hors d'Oeuvres will be served to the public during the event. The location is at Plainfield Mayur's parking lot on 21st and SW Taylor, one block South of Burnside.

About Plainfield Mayur:

Plainfield's Mayur has been providing unforgettable food and wine experiences to the Portland area for 27 years. This fine dining destination has one of the largest wine lists in the Pacific Northwest with some of the lowest prices on fine wine anywhere. The focus of the chefs is to prepare cuisine that enhances the appreciation of the wines served. Housed in a turn of the century Victorian mansion, the atmosphere lends itself to a cozy intimate retreat from a fast paced world. For more information, please visit www.plainfields.com.

September 11th Families For Peaceful Tomorrows: Turning Our Grief into Action for Peace



“September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows: Turning our Grief into Action for Peace” tells the story of how we came together to form the group, and how we have struggled to keep our losses from being used as a justification for further violence and terror. Written by David Potorti, along with original essays from members of the group including Ryan Amundson, Myrna Bethke, Derrill Bodley, Kelly Campbell, Colleen Kelly, Rita

Lasar, Kristina Olsen, Andrew Rice, and Terry Rockefeller.

This soft cover book is 250 pages and retails for \$14.95. It's published by RDV Books/Akashic Books and is available through local bookstores or online through [Akashic Books](#), [BookSense](#), [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Powell's](#), or other book outlets. It's available to the trade through [Consortium](#)

January 16, 2003

New York Times
Protest Groups Using Updated Tactics to Spread Antiwar Message

January 15, 2003

Washington Post
Activists Bring War Protests to Baghdad

January 14, 2003

Iowa City Press-Citizen
Terrorist victim families connect with Iraqis

January 13, 2003

San Francisco Chronicle
Gulf War, Sept. 11 victims meet in Iraq - Sad pilgrimage made to urge nonviolent response

January 9, 2003

Ireland Online
Sept 11 victims share grief with Iraqis

January 9, 2003

The Associated Press
Sept. 11 Victims' Kin Protest in Iraq - Families of Sept. 11 Victims Join in Grief With Iraqis Who Lost Loved Ones in Gulf War

January 8, 2003

CNN World
U.S. group advocates peace in Iraq

January 8, 2003

New York Times
Swords, Plowshares and 9/11 Steel

January 7, 2003

CNN Europe
Perspective: Kat Tinley

January 5, 2003

Australian Broadcasting Corp.
S11 victims' families strive for peace

December 9, 2002

Athens Banner-Herald
Groups call for giving peace a chance - 'Prayer' for war victims

December 12, 2002

Des Moines Register
9/11 victim's niece pushes for peace

October 20, 2002

Hope Magazine
Legacies of Love

September/October 2002

The Olympian
We can all create a culture of peace here and now

September 21, 2002

more in [Media Coverage](#)

[members login](#)

Book Sales & Distribution and other major wholesalers. ISBN 0-9719206-4-8.
[[read more..](#)]

Updated September 8, 2003

Steps To Peace Video

Steps to Peace: The Journey of September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows is a 15 minute video including interviews with people who lost loved ones on 9/11, their decision to speak out as a voice for



peace, the formation of the group Peaceful Tomorrows and highlights of major activities including the DC to NYC walk for healing and peace and the first trip to Afghanistan. This video serves as an introduction to the messages of Peaceful Tomorrows and as a starting point for local discussions about action for a peaceful world. **LIMITED copies of the Steps to Peace video are available.**

[[read more and to order](#)] Updated April 24, 2003

[[watch movie](#)] 12 MB, streaming, 15 min.

[[watch movie](#)] 24 MB, streaming, 15 min.

Apple Quicktime Plug-in needed.

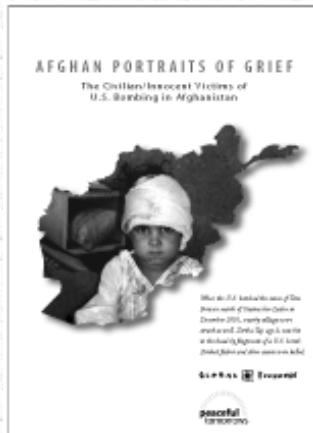
Statement on Iraq War

"The past is prophetic in that it asserts that wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows. One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal. We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means. How much longer must we play at deadly war games before we heed the plaintive pleas of the unnumbered dead and maimed of past wars?" — Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows condemns unconditionally the illegal, immoral, and unjustified US-led military action in Iraq. As family members of September 11th victims, we know how it feels to experience "shock and awe," and we do not want other innocent families to suffer the trauma and grief that we have endured. While we also condemn the brutality of Saddam Hussein's regime, it does not justify the brutality, death and destruction being visited upon Iraq and its citizens by our own government.

[[read more](#)]

Posted March 19, 2003



Afghan Portraits of Grief:

The Civilian/Innocent Victims of U.S. Bombing in Afghanistan

by Peaceful Tomorrows and Global Exchange

Following a Global Exchange delegation of Peaceful Tomorrows members to Afghanistan in January 2002, the groups initiated a survey of victims of US military action in Afghanistan. This report documents the survey results and reveals the faces and stories of some of these largely unacknowledged Afghan

victims. In disclosing the human costs of the conflict, the report is intended to generate support for programs to aid those people who were harmed by the U.S. military campaign.

[[PDF Download](#)] Posted Oct. 21, 2002

Correspondence with the White House on Iraq

In September 2002, members of Peaceful Tomorrows wrote a letter to President Bush expressing our concerns around the proposed war in Iraq. We received a reply from Condoleezza Rice on the president's behalf several weeks later, and responded to her letter asking for a meeting to discuss our concerns.

[[read more](#)] Posted Nov. 18, 2002



Photos

The [gallery](#) includes photos from trips to Iraq in January 2003, Afghanistan in January 2002 and June 2002, as well as Cards Written by Students in Afghanistan to Kids of America, April 20 Peace March in Washington DC, Meeting Hiroshima Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors in NYC and others..

[[view gallery](#)] Updated Jan. 29, 2003

Music

by Peaceful Tomorrows Members

[Steps to Peace-for Deora](#) (mp3 format, 1.2Meg) by Derrill Bodley

[The Art of Being Kind-for Laurie](#) (mp3 format, 4.5Meg) by

Kristina Olsen

Join or Contribute

Click the [get involved](#) section for membership information for family and friends of 9/11 victims, plus information for supporters and contributions.

Past front page news items are [archived here](#)

"Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows"—Martin Luther King, Jr.