

# RRN NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1  
Summer 1999

## Why the Name “recovering Racists?”

We recently received a membership donation with an accompanying letter that strongly recommended that we change the name of RRN to, as the member stated, "something like 'A Network for Racial Tolerance' or something positive-sounding like that." She opened her letter by expressing that "yours will be a losing effort if you do not change the name of your organization."

This member is not the first supporter of RRN who has offered advice on our choice of name. I want to respectfully respond to her and others

in hopes of creating a better understanding of what RRN is about and why we have stood by our name. I would like to appreciate our member for reminding me that while we glow from our flatterers, we grow from our challengers. She has also given us a chance to model two of our RRN values -- that we want to welcome and create a

“...something told me that this name possessed hidden power.”



The RRN Badge

respectful forum for all views, and that we want to constantly and honestly re-evaluate our process and structure so that we remain in humble and effective service to our mission.

First and most important...  
(Continued on page 3)

## Thank you to our Members and donors

Thank you for your membership and support – RRN could not continue it's work in healing racism without the generous contributions of many people. Thank you for

your donations and support in the past year. We would especially like to thank our new members who we welcome to the RRN family with open arms:

(Continued on page 4)

## High school students get a new “r.a.p.”

Recovering Racist Network has joined with the Mount Diablo Peace Center, Mt. Diablo High School, and the Bahá'í community in the development and facilitation of

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### Special points of interest:

- College Park High School presents annual Multicultural Fair.
- RRN founder receives peacemaker of the year award.
- Community organizations work together to initiate a race awareness program at Mt. Diablo High School
- RRN welcomes two new board members!

## “Grace” appears each week

Every Friday at 3:00 o'clock an angel appears on our doorstep. Grace Lee, .....



Grace assembles RRN brochures and badges and works on mailings and other projects.

## RRN Welcomes New Board Members

RRN is delighted to announce the addition of two new Board members, Regina Williams and Emily Zimmerman, who each bring a wealth of understanding and experience in healing racism and other isms.

Regina Williams grew up in South Bend, Indiana, and received her B.A. in Physical Anthropology and Biology from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri in 1991. She has over ten years experience in organizational development and small business management. She was instrumental in establishing *The Color of Fear*, a breakthrough film on racism, as a tool for personal development for individuals and educational institutions. Regina also served as Associate Producer for the film, *The Way Home*, another powerful film on gender, race, and oppression, and directs World Trust's national campaign of community dialogue. Regina also

serves the Oakland community as a member of the task force for the City of Oakland's dialogue on race.

Emily Han Zimmerman is a biracial American, 2nd generation Korean and 10th generation Pennsylvania German. She is currently the Director of the M.A. Program in Korean Studies at the Intercultural Institute of California in San Francisco, and Vice President of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce. She received her undergraduate degree from Yale University. She has also trained in a wide range of conflict resolution, communication, and coaching models, which include: Community Boards (neighborhood dispute resolution), Alternatives to Violence Project, Parent Effectiveness Training, Focusing, Compassionate Communication, and the Artists' Conference Network. She has formed and facilitated successful support groups and events for women, people of color, and artists, among others. She has also partici-

## A BIG Thank You...

To our Volunteers to who helped with our membership drive by folding, stuffing, and stamping envelopes: Grace Lee, Joy Lee and Andrea Stevens, especially to Grace whose presence, commitment and consistency renewed us week after week. Thanks also to Laura Fitch who helped with the Anti-Hate Di-

### Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers are needed for the following tasks:

- a Volunteer Coordinator to help recruit, and train new volunteers and schedule volunteers to help with various tasks.

- Volunteers to research & compile information for our Anti-Hate Directory;

- Volunteers to research & network with other organizations working on anti-racism and related projects;

- Volunteers to research potential funding sources, and/or write letters of inquiry and grant proposals, and submit funding applications;

- Volunteers to help with various aspects of producing the newsletter (researching, writing, editing, formatting, etc.).

Contact John McKenzie for more information.

participated in many trainings aimed at dismantling racism.

## the name...

(Continued from page 1)

tant to this issue is that I have personally gained respect for the power of using the name Recovering Racist Network over the years, especially as it applies to the Recovering Racist Badge. When the name first came to me, I was not so excited about it myself. I had the same fears and anxiety that others have expressed. From my experience marketing conferences, I knew that the name was open to misinterpretation and would not be accepted by everyone. But, although I could not articulate it at the time, something told me that this name possessed hidden power. I have since been shown the reasons why this name has the power to help me make deep changes and to draw others who are willing and ready to make a deeper commitment to healing racism - *the personal commitment*.

### We appreciate and need other anti-racism organizations.

There are many great organizations out there doing great work in helping to facilitate the healing of racism in our society. Most have attractive, positive names such as "Eracism," "Unlearning Racism," and "Diversity Works." We support the work of all organizations whose missions are to heal racism and the other isms —as long as they are working nonviolently. Part of RRN's mission is to facilitate networking and collaboration between other organizations working on the same cause. There is an abundance of healing work to be done. Even as more organizations join in, we will not have a lack of need. What would we do if we were called on to serve everyone interested in healing racism? Those who are not drawn to RRN hopefully will be inspired by one of these other or-

ganizations. Others who may pass by one of these other organizations may catch in the RRN net.

### To create dialogue

Our mission to create dialogue is perfectly served by our name. When we exhibit RRN at a festival or conference, we are not missed. For example, we have exhibited many times at the Whole Life Expo in San Francisco. This event has hundreds of other booths packed in one after the other. I suspect that most people only remember the names of a few booths the day after they leave the show. I can tell from the responses we get that we are likely to be one of those remembered. We see many people who are walking around in a daze, half looking at booths for something to jump out at them. Even if they get past us, most often a few feet later they will stop as our name registers in their brain and turn back to see

*"Using the RRN name and badge is our way of modeling that we are willing to understand that this racism is not only in "those" other "bad" people. It is in me and I am responsible for how I respond to it."*

what we are about.

The name on the "Recovering Racist" badge works in similar fashion. When I meet with other antiracism groups and diversity trainers, a common concern I hear is "how do we reach those people

who would not be likely to attend a workshop on racism." As you probably know, the Recovering Racist badge is designed to respond to that question by sparking dialogue in public. If you wear a badge that says, "I am against racism" you help by showing that you are an ally in the cause. But with the Recovering Racist badge, you get more actual questions and responses that open the door for real dialogue. People get a chance to meet you as a person committed to healing racism and you, in return, get an accelerated learning program. For example, I quickly learned that there a lot more allies than I expected and I learned of the many and complex ways that this issue effects people.

### Decriminalizing the word "racism"

I have previously been cautious about making this point but I am now confident that it is a needed approach. Many people, and more specifically most Euro-Americans, will admit that when they think of a racist, they picture a member of a hate group (e.g. KKK or Nazi). Despite any perceptions drawn from media coverage, overt haters make up a miniscule percentage of our population. Racism could not exist if it were solely left up to these groups. I strongly believe racism exists in some form in all good people who are not saints. To recover from this affliction, I must first call it out by name. When I experience a racist moment of thought or action, or when I notice that I am benefiting from my status as a member of my race, I say "there it is again - that is racism." It does not make you or I a bad person. It is just our predicament. Using the RRN name and badge is our way of modeling that

(Continued on page 6)

## Members and donors

(Continued from page 1)

**Donor Members (\$1,000 or more):**  
William, Josephine and Marie Burns,  
Jack McKenzie, Walburga and Jim  
McAtamney

**Sponsoring Members (\$100 -  
\$999):**  
Michelle Abraham/EAR Books, Susan  
Colson and Maureen Anderson, Katy  
Brant, Frances E. Kendall, Cynthia  
McReynolds and David Goff, Sharon  
Novak, Julie O'Mara, Bruce Orinstein,  
Jyoti and Russell Parks, K. Avilla  
Peterson

**Supporting Members (\$35 - \$99):**  
Michael Bell, Tom and Nancy Burns,  
Jeanne and Paul Byorth, Cynthia  
Chavez, Kathy Evans-Palmisano,  
Marcia Ferstenfeld and Imago  
Relationship Therapy of Michigan,  
Ethan Flad, Eve Gilmartin, Michael  
Heim and Jesse Gutierrez, Jeff Hitch-  
cock, Carl Hopkins, Sumiko Ishikawa,  
Sara and Walter Johnson, Nancy Y.  
Lee, Carol McHuron, Timothy J.  
O'Malley, Roger Marshall, Paul Par-  
tridge, John Potts, Natalie Rogers,  
Marlene Jones Schoonover, Barbara  
Schuh, Shih-In and David Shirley,  
Nora St. John, Frank Stone, Barbara  
and Ed Tonningsen

**Solidarity Members (0-\$30):**  
Bonnie Brice, April Martin Chartrand,  
Carole Kirby, Denise Mewbourne,  
Alan Moore, Jocelyn Olivier, Melv  
Suhd and Jennifer Suhd Brondstat-  
ter, Doug Thompson, Carol Wagner,  
Mamata Yagalla, Gurudev Shree  
Chitrabhanuji and Jain Meditation  
International

*If we have forgotten to include your  
name, please accept our apology.  
Call to let us know and we will in-  
clude your name in our next  
newsletter.*

## R r n D e t r o i t

One of our Michigan members,  
Roger Marshall, recently represented  
RRN at an anti-racism conference in  
Detroit. He set up an RRN exhibit ta-  
ble, sold badges and gave away RRN  
booklets to introduce people in  
Michigan to RRN.

The conference was titled *Journey  
Toward Wholeness: Anti-Racism  
Training*. It was sponsored by the  
Birmingham Unitarian Church of Bir-  
mingham, Michigan and the First  
Unitarian-Universalist Church of De-  
troit, and was held February 26-28,  
1999.

Roger writes, in the Detroit Chapter  
of the Association for Psychological  
Type newsletter: "Part of my learning  
has been made easier through my  
connection with a man of anti-racist  
passion who developed a web site  
called the Recovering Racist Net-  
work ([www.rrnet.org](http://www.rrnet.org)). In the words  
of John McKenzie, "My good inten-  
tions are not much use if I fail to take  
responsibility for the pain I inflict on  
others through my lack of aware-  
ness"."

A second follow-up retreat was held  
May 14-16, 1999, and Roger was  
there again to represent RRN and  
distribute RRN booklets and informa-  
tion. Thank you Roger for your sup-

## ANTI-HATE DIRECTORY

RRN is compiling information for a  
database and catalog of organiza-  
tions (both on the net and not) that  
have anti-racism (and other isms),  
anti-hate, unity, nonviolence, or  
overcoming intolerance as their pri-  
mary focus. This list will be pub-  
lished to contrast the Hate Groups  
list that is published by the South-  
ern Poverty Law Center's (SPLC) In-  
telligence Report (formerly Klan-  
watch). We are working in coopera-  
tion with SPLC and other organiza-  
tions in creating this list.

We hope that our list will give hope  
to those people who want to work  
to end racism and intolerance, as  
well as a feeling that they are not  
alone. We believe that there are  
more anti-hate groups in America  
than hate groups.

You can help by sending us informa-  
tion on groups for this list. Please  
include as much as you can of the  
following: Organization Name, Con-  
tact Name, Address, Phone, Fax, E-  
mail, Website URL, Mission state-  
ment, and any other pertinent infor-  
mation. Electronic data is appreci-  
ated. If you only have partial infor-  
mation, please send it anyway and  
we will try to track down a full list-

## R . a . P . P r o g r a m . . .

(Continued from page 1)

a 10-week after-school multi-  
cultural student relations program  
called Race Awareness Program  
(R.A.P.).

The Peace Center received a grant  
of \$5000 from FAITHS Initiative of  
the San Francisco Foundation to  
start a race relations program. The  
program is being modeled after a  
successful program started by the  
Coalition of Alamedans for Racial

Equality (CARE). It is designed to  
help students address their individ-  
ual and collective experiences  
around prejudice, segregation and  
discrimination.

Students selected for the program  
represent the ethnic diversity of  
the school. They learn about each  
other and in the process bring  
down racial and cultural bounda-  
ries. Student participants receive a  
\$100 stipend and a certificate for  
completing the program.

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# Youth Leadership

## R.a.P. Program...

(Continued from page 4)

The goal of the program is to help students learn and discover about themselves and others, and celebrate their similarities and differences by creating a safe, facilitated environment where students will be able to explore and resolve their own issues, attitudes and stereotypes about race, through experiential exercises, personal interaction, and reflection.

Many of the students who experienced the program in Alameda improved their grades dramatically because their self-esteem improved; some joined the school board and others started diversity programs at their school. The pilot session of the program has 2 groups of 20 students. Three facilitators guide each group.

Desired Outcomes of the program include:

- Students developing skills and esteem necessary to address their personal prejudices.
- Students developing an ability to confidently communicate with others the knowledge they gain about issues of race and oppression.
- Students becoming positive leaders and models in their social groups for creating peaceful and respectful interaction.
- A network of students who can do proactive work in their school and community on ending racism.
- A community of students who

will help each other to continue the process of dealing with tough personal, school, and community issues around racism.

Thirty-nine students recently completed the 10-week program at Mt. Diablo High School. Evaluations showed that students learned a lot and gained value

from the program.

A five-week Parent/Adult version of the program will be offered in the Fall of 1999. A community Race Relations Task Force also plans to help the Multi-Cultural Student Relations program expand to other schools in the Fall of 1999. Other Contra Costa County Schools have expressed interest in having the program.



Inspired artwork of Grace Lee

## Multicultural fair

### High School Students Organize Multicultural Fair

College Park High School in Pleasant Hill, California, held its annual Multicultural Fair on the evening of April 2. Students from many different ethnic groups were represented, including Persian, Afghanistan, Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Indian, Greek, and African-American. Each group performed beautiful, inspiring traditional ethnic dances, complete with traditional costumes and dress.

The Fair also included a fashion

show, ethnic foods, and music performed by the students. One girl sang an Italian opera, and two girls performed a duet of the theme song from the Prince of Egypt. One of the girls, with a voice to rival Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey, also sang the National Anthem.

All the performances were incredibly beautiful and inspiring. This is a very talented group of students and a Fair not to be missed in the future. Our own volunteer, Grace Lee, was one of a group that performed a traditional Korean fan dance, which was very colorful and

## The name...

(Continued from page 3)

we are willing to understand that this racism is not only in "those" other "bad" people. It is in me and I am responsible for how I respond to it.

### To keep us humble

Michael Bell, one our friends and supporters, told me of the time he was in a group process retreat on healing racism. At this retreat the large group broke down into smaller core learning groups. Each group was asked to choose a name for their group. Our friend's group adopted the name, "The Pathetic Two-leggeds." He explained that this name served them by reminding them that we are all flawed and that remembering this helped them listen and speak more compassionately and more authentically.

I love this story. I believe that the RRN name and the badge also serve this purpose of reminding us that we need to remain humble and be open to seeing our blind spots, even when they are painfully exposed by others. We need see how much we are like those people whom we are trying to inspire to look at their own internal fears and issues of prejudice and racism.

To paraphrase Martin Luther King, we hope that RRN members are genuine leaders who are not searchers for consensus but molders of consensus. Thus RRN is not and probably will never be the name that will appeal to all. RRN is a place for those who are making a commitment to do inner work on their issues of racism and intolerance so that their outer work becomes the fruit of this inner labor. It

"RRN is a place for those who are making a commitment to do inner work on their issues of racism and intolerance so that their outer work becomes the fruit of this inner labor."

## Peacemaker of The Year



Eve Gilmartin presenting the "Peacemaker of the Year" award to RRN founder, John McKenzie.

John McKenzie was awarded a "Peacemaker of the Year" award this past October for his contributions to his community. The award was conferred by the Center for Human Resources Development's Conflict Resolution Panels Program. The award was presented at a dinner in Concord, California. Eleven other people in Contra Costa County were also given the award.

### Our founder: john mckenzie

John McKenzie has devoted his life to making the world, the nation and his community more peaceful. He has coordinated major world-wide conferences devoted to consciousness, spirituality and personal and planetary healing.

RRN's website brings together people who share his goal of a peaceful, just and compassionate world where all people can grow away from racism and intolerance. His work has been recognized by the President's Initiative on Race.

Mr. McKenzie works with children, young people and adults in developing programs, films and discussion groups on diversity.

– Eve Gilmartin, RRN Member and Conflict Resolution Panel Volunteer

### Lessons from Gandhi

When I think about what I could say in a few minutes that would communicate the core of taking personal responsibility for healing racism, a story about Gandhi comes to mind.

A woman in India had a son that had diabetes and the doctor told her that if her son continued to eat sugar he could die. The mother had a terrible time trying to get the boy to stop eating sweets.

In desperation she took her son to see Gandhi. She came to Gandhi and asked if he would counsel the boy not to eat sugar. Gandhi told her to bring the boy back in five days. She was confused and shocked but she decided that Gandhi must know what is right.

In five days she returned with her son and asked again for Gandhi to tell the boy not to eat sugar. Gandhi called the boy in and said to him, "Stop eating sugar."

The mother was angry and said, "Why did you make us wait five days just so you could say, 'stop eating sugar'? Could you not have said that five days ago?"

Gandhi said, "Madam, five days ago

# World news



**NEW JERSEY** – Statistics released by the state of New Jersey confirm allegations that

troopers target African-Americans and other minorities for traffic stops. The figures show that African-Americans and Latinos made up nearly “3 of every 4 people arrested on the turnpike” for January, February, April and May of 1997. Other reports state that African-Americans are arrested at a higher rate than whites statewide.

Some police say this reflects the fact that African-Americans are “proportionately more involved in crime” and “does not reflect bias by police.” Attorney General Peter Verniero expressed concern about the disparity in the statistics and said it reinforces his unprecedented review of the state police. In a 3-page statement, Verniero elaborated on steps he has taken to combat possible racism in the department, including ordering probes of the state police, organizing a statewide law enforcement summit and supporting the installation of video cameras in patrol cars.

**COLORADO** – The Colorado state House entertained the first ever floor debate of a bill to protect the civil rights of gays and lesbians. After twenty years of proposals, the bill was rejected by a narrow margin of 34-30. The bill did not go down without stirring emotions on both sides of the issue as citizens opposed to the bill made their voices known to house members with a flood of calls and letters, some of them hateful attacks against the representatives themselves.

Only two speakers took the floor against the bill while numerous supporters called for the passage of the bill on the basis of fairness and

equality and denounced the hatred they'd heard from some people lobbying against the bill. One representative, Tom Plant (D-Nederland) said he was particularly disturbed by a caller who told him, “These people are nothing but animals,” and he reminded us that “That’s how we justified slavery. That’s how we justified the slaughter of American Indians. That’s how Hitler justified the massacre of the Jews.” Another representative had a message for the religious organizations from which she received many hateful phone calls: “you should be ashamed of yourselves.”

**CLEVELAND, OH** – The home opener at Jacobs Field lit up with a burning effigy of Cleveland Indians’ mascot “Chief Wahoo”. About 40 protestors rallied to denounce the mascot as a “racist caricature of American Indians.” Some fans booed demonstrators carrying signs that said “These honor who?” and showed versions of Chief Wahoo and the faces of highly stereotyped black, Asian and Latino men. No one was arrested, unlike other demonstrations in which arrests led to a new lawsuit against the city and police officers contending civil rights violations. “If you can burn a flag you can burn a Wahoo,” said Terry Gilbert a lawyer for the protestors.

Charlene Teters, vice president of the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media and plaintiff in the lawsuit, notes that the average person has an awareness they didn’t have before. Teters campaigns against Indian mascots all across the country and said other communities that have Indian logos for sports teams regard Cleveland’s as the most derogatory. “They say, ‘at least their mascot isn’t little red Sambo like in Cleveland.’”

**CHINA** – Tolerance of gay and lesbian lifestyles is growing in China.

Though homosexuality was prevalent in ancient Chinese Culture, the Communist Revolution of 50 years ago brought with it an intolerance of anyone who was different. This is only slowly changing. Today there is no law against homosexuality in China but the subject is still taboo in mainstream media and gays and lesbians mostly hide their sexual orientation from friends and family. It was not so long ago that they could be arrested for hooliganism or disturbing the public order and be sent for electric shock treatment.

Since sexual orientation is grounds for political asylum in the United States, a handful of Chinese men have emigrated to the United States as “gay dissidents.” Until recently the suicide rate for Chinese homosexuals was nearly 10%. Today same sex couples are venturing out of the closet to socialize in public though it doesn’t attract much attention since young Chinese heterosexual men and women hold hands in public displays of friendship.

**MUNICH, GERMANY** – The Bavarian state government was accused of “pure racism” against the Gypsies (also known as Roma and Sinti) in a letter published in US and German papers. The letter was signed by supporters, including the leader of Germany’s Central Council of Jews, Ignatz Bubis; Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal; and actors Gregory Peck, Vanessa Redgrave, Tim Robbins, Winona Ryder and Matt Damon.

Head of the Central Council of Roma and Sinti, Romani Rose, revealed that police maintained a database that recorded the names and license plate numbers of most of the 11,000 gypsies living in the southern state. Bavarian Interior Ministry denied the allegations, saying that the data-



# RRN Mailbag



Every day we receive letters and e-mail from people all over the country interested in what RRN has to offer. Here is

an opportunity to share with you what others are saying to and about Recovering Racist Network.

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Thank you for tackling this sensitive issue.

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I really wanted to comment on the Peace Center meeting tonight. Frankly, I didn't know what to expect. Was this just another "jive" meeting? There are so many would-be experts who have the answers to everything, but their real goals are to make money and get their "15 minutes of fame." What I found instead was a decent guy who is really trying

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*"I realized about a year ago how racist I was and I've been doing all I can to correct my shortcomings. I want to do more."*

to make a difference. Thank you for contributing to more possibilities for peace in the world.

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I want to work on this issue, John. I want to know more about my own blind spots and fears and work through them. . .The world, especially white middle class americans, need to realize that racism is not healed. We have a lot of work to do yet.

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I realized about a year ago how racist I was and I've been doing all I can to correct my shortcomings. I want to do more. I grew up...where racial attitudes are extremely unhealthy. I'll be moving to St. Louis soon and am interested in finding fellow musicians there who are also dedicated to exposing and ending racism. Any leads or ideas would be greatly appreciated. . . I WILL NO

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*"The idea of recovering racists is a great one!"*

LONGER BE APATHETIC. I WILL BE MOVED TO ACTION.

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Actually, I find racism excruciating. I am acutely aware of it, every time I meet a white person. I can transcend attending to it for a while, but I soon feel it, and it hurts. . . Anyway, I am grateful for your work on racism and I'm grateful to your aunt for bringing this problem to your deeper awareness.

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Yesterday afternoon I went to the community clinic to see my counselor. He is a white male. I showed him the RRN packet. He said he didn't suppose you would sell many of them. He went on to say that he is fed up with being accused of being racist and sexist. He admitted he is classist and said that the lower-class people of all races in his neighborhood bother all the middle-class people who live there. . .I'll probably terminate with him when I have my next appointment. I don't think I need to be treated for depression by an angry white male.

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I just checked out the RRN site briefly. You have done a tremendous piece of work, which I will try to use regularly. Thanks for helping create a space which brings to-

gether so much important information.

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The idea of recovering racists is a great one! It's nice to see something that says we are all basically holding some fault. Thanks for a nice breath of fresh air.

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"I was very glad to hear about the Recovering Racists Network. Ever since February (1998), I have been praying about what I need to do to promote some healing in the interracial fear and distrust in our community. I have been going every Sunday after Mass to pray and meditate at the Baptist Church during their worship service...Of course, I know where the problem lies--with the white racists, who outnumber the blacks by 10 to 1. John has reasoned out a way to address the problem that is DIRECT. "When all else fails, use the direct

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*"I find racism excruciating. I am acutely aware of it, every time I meet a white person. I can transcend attending to it for a while, but I soon feel it, and it hurts. . ."*

approach." I'm enthused and relieved to be able to cooperate with your program, John, because I was not getting very far with my weak and soft-spoken suggestions."

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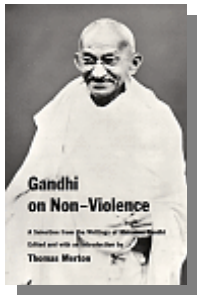
I applaud what you are doing, there on the front lines, John.

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Write us! Tell us what you think or share your experience. Send ques-



# Anti-Racism Resource Center



*Gandhi on Non-Violence*, edited by Thomas Merton. A selection from the writings of Mahatma Gandhi which make up Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence. Profound teachings. I carry this book with me always. It is filled with Gandhi's quotes on non-violence that both inspire and give you a deeper picture of the practice of true non-violence from the inside out.

*We Can All Get Along: 50 Steps You Can Take to Help End Racism*, by Clyde W. Ford. The fifty steps in this thought-provoking guidebook help readers develop a personal program for eliminating racism, from noticing unintentionally racist language to identifying--and voting against--institutionalized racism.

*The Way Home*, a video documentary by Shakti Butler. With uncommon courage, sixty-four women, in eight separate ethnic councils, weave their compassionate stories and critical thought on race, gender and class in America. Designed to touch the heart, the soul and the mind, *The Way Home* captures intimate glimpses of their pain and their power, normally reserved for insiders only.

*Gandhi on Non-Violence* by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Thomas Merton (Editor)

*We Can All Get Along : 50 Steps You Can Take to Help End Racism* by Clyde W. Ford

*The Way Home*, a video documentary by Shakti Butler.

List Price: \$5.95 \*\*Amazon Price: \$4.76 \*\* You Save: \$1.19 (20%)

List Price: \$10.95 \*\*Amazon Price: \$8.76 \*\* You Save: \$2.19 (20%)

Call RRN for pricing and ordering information. (925) 682-4959 or e-mail to: wayhome@rrnet.org

Availability: Usually ships within 24 hours.

Availability: On Order; usually ships within 1-2 weeks.



Save money on books and support rrn



If you buy books, you can now save money on any book and help support RRN at the same time with just a few mouse clicks. RRN has linked with Amazon.com to provide you quick access to recommended books on racism, non-violence, leadership, community, etc. If you want to purchase one or more of the RRN recommended books, go to the RRN website (www.rrnet.org) and click on the title or icon. You will pop into the order section of Amazon.com for that title. You pay the same low Amazon.com price and they donate up to 15% of your purchase to RRN.

-OR-

If you click on the Amazon.com logo on any page of the RRN website, and buy any book, Amazon.com will donate 5% of your purchase to RRN.

# Membership information

## A Note to Our Members:

We need to increase our membership! We need more people to join our efforts. Right now, membership donations and public donations are our main form of financial support. And we desperately need more money to continue our efforts to heal racism and overcome intolerance of all forms. We need your help.

Personal contact/word of mouth is the best way to bring in new members. Please tell your friends about RRN and ask them to join RRN. We would be happy to send information booklets/packets to your friends, colleagues, etc. Please write or call us and we would be happy to oblige.

Thank you!  
RRN Board and Staff

## Benefits of Membership:

- While supplies last, new members receive a copy of the book, "**And don't call me a racist!**" by Ella Mazel, who has generously donated her book to RRN and other non-profit organizations working to end racism.
- Quarterly newsletter containing news, personal stories, editorials, member letters, resources and events calendar.
- Provides you with the opportunity to join a community of those who stand against injustice, racism, bigotry and intolerance.
- Provides a network to bring people and organizations together to support each other and share resources.
- Gives hope and inspiration to all of us that we are not alone

in our efforts to heal racism and improve our world.

- Access to news stories regarding diversity, racism and intolerance, updated daily via our website.
- Network with other organizations dedicated to healing racism, overcoming intolerance and related efforts.
- RRN presentations, workshops and exhibits (held at schools, churches, conferences, festivals, community and civic centers and other venues). (Please contact us if you would like to schedule a presentation, workshop or exhibit, or develop a diversity training program, for your group or organization.)
- RRN information booklets and badges. (Contact us via phone, e-mail, fax or

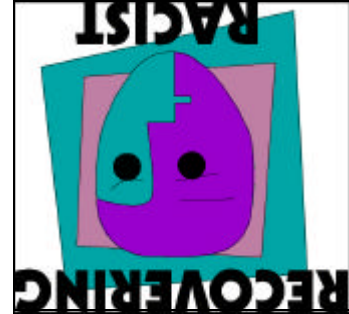


## RRN wish list:

RRN needs the following equipment, supplies, printing help, etc.:

- 1) A fast, new notebook computer - for use at RRN exhibits to call up articles and resources on the issues of racism and intolerance, display our website, and maintain our database; and to keep in touch with people requesting information and support while we are on the road conducting RRN presentations, workshops and exhibits.
- 2) A high quality VCR or video deck - for use at RRN diversity video discussion group meetings and at RRN exhibits.
- 3) A portable pop-up exhibit-display system (preferably freestanding, but table-top okay) - for use at RRN exhibits.
- 4) Custom-made banner signs ("Recovering Racists Network" and "Healing Racism: A Personal Approach") - for use at RRN exhibits, presentations and workshops.
- 5) Flip chart easel and pads - for use at RRN exhibits, presentations and workshops.
- 6) Lightweight 5' or 6' (preferably 6') folding table - for use at RRN exhibits and workshops.
- 7) Deep throat (at least 5-1/2") electric stapler - for stapling RRN booklets.
- 8) HP toner cartridges (#LJ4/5) for laser printer - for printing RRN booklets and correspondence.
- 9) Donation of printing - printing of RRN booklets.
- 10) High quality copier - for RRN office use.
- 11) 5-10 folding chairs - for use at RRN exhibits, presentations and workshops.
- 12) A 29'-36' motor home - for traveling across the country to conduct RRN lectures, presentations, workshops, and exhibits. Our goal is to conduct RRN events in





*Healing racism... a personal approach*

Recovering Racists Network  
2455 Marcia Drive  
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Fax: 925.687.4437  
Email: [info@rrnet.org](mailto:info@rrnet.org)  
<http://www.rrnet.org>

## RRN NEWSLETTER

### And The good news is...

#### the Birmingham Pledge. Sign It. Live It.

An idea started by a group of religious and secular organizations to encourage racial harmony throughout their city has spread across America via the internet.

The pledge reads:

*I believe...*

*that every person has worth as an individual.*

*I believe every person is entitled to dignity and respect, regardless of race or color.*

*I believe every thought and every act of racial prejudice is harmful; if it is my thought or act, then it is harmful to me as well as to others.*

*Therefore, from this day forward I will... strive daily to eliminate racial prejudice from my thoughts and actions.*

*I will discourage racial prejudice by others at every opportunity.*

*I will treat all people with dignity and respect; and I will strive daily to honor this pledge, knowing that the world will be a better place because of my effort.*

To sign the pledge, visit [www.onb.org](http://www.onb.org) or contact RRN for a copy.

#### Methodist's Growing Movement of Reconciliation.

On Sunday June 6, we attended a service and forum at the Walnut Creek, CA United Methodist Church to celebrate their five year anniversary of becoming

part of the growing number of United Methodist "Reconciling Congregations." A Reconciling Congregation is one that makes a commitment to be openly inclusive of all persons. The affirmation read by the congregation during the service includes: "... We rejoice in the gifts and graces of all persons. No one will be excluded from participating in the body of the church because of age, race, ethnicity, culture, religious origins, sexual orientation or challenging conditions; therefore, we openly accept and welcome the participation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons in our midst. Acceptance for all can be a reality if we as builders of the community make it so. ... We affirm the teachings of Jesus that call us to move beyond judgment to love, ... As builders of the bridges of connectedness, we invite all to join with us in our gatherings." There are currently 170 U.M. Reconciling Congregations World Wide.