

How to Make the World Safe for Our Children

Leonard Greene

A terrorist killed my son on 9/11. Child-soldiers are killing children.

Justification for labeling others as enemies is not hard to find, given the atrocities of human history. Yet, I do not see enemies. I see only other families—families who cherish and protect their children. We all have this in common. Let us build upon this shared experience.

When we see one another as a world of families, there is a way out of this madness. But if we reject this vision, then we cannot offer any real hope for our children's future. It is only a short time until our ability for mutual destruction is perfected

and we have, through our collective enmity, worked up ample cause to send our children out to destroy the enemies—one another's children.

We have become locked in perpetual conflict. Yet our diverse cultures and religions teach us to honor life and respect the law. We must acknowledge these shared beliefs, heal our common suffering, and reject the use of violence. Only then can we stand united to ensure that Bin Laden and other outlaws are brought to justice by their peers. Only then can we establish a peaceful and democratic world community.

Leonard Greene
President

ISES
Institute for SocioEconomic Studies

10 New King Street
White Plains, New York
10604-1204

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