

Peace Heroes: The Power of Personal Narratives: Peace Flag Raising Speech 4/22/2022

E.C. Warriner's question: "What can teachers do to aid the peace cause?" Point 3 – "Praise Heroes of Peace." **WHY: Personal narratives of Peace Heroes educate and inspire the individual on the Peace Cause.**

3 Heroes of Peace that Educate and Inspire (FIRST PASS):

- **Bertha von Suttner** (Understanding of the Frame)
 - Incredibly important international peace activist: First woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1905; *Lay Down Your Arms* (1889) documents horrors of war on an individuals from the home front; takes part in the first Hague Convention of 1899; only woman in attendance at 1907 Second Hague Peace Conference.
 - *The Barbarization of the Sky* (1912): Foresaw the future of conflict in the air. Documents barrier to peace
 - Political Science concept of "Blowback" (**BLAME**). **2 Principles – Fundamental explanation of behavior of the bureaucracies of war:**
 - READ ON PAGE 37 PRINCIPLE 2 AND PAGE 38.
 - No critical examination of the self in blame; simply response. *The Frame of Operation and Understanding*.
 - **How do we break this frame?**
- **Shinzo Hamai** (Breaking Frame of Blame)
 - First democratically elected mayor of Hiroshima in April 1947; gives Mayoral Declaration on August 6th, 1947 (2-year anniversary) declaring Hiroshima will be rebuilt as a Peace City.
 - "This horrible weapon brought about a "Revolution of Thought" which has convinced us of the necessity and value of eternal peace. That is to say, because of this atomic bomb, the people of the world have become aware that a global war in which atomic energy would be used would lead to the end of our civilization and extinction of mankind. This revolution in thinking ought to be the *basis for an absolute peace*, and imply the birth of a new life and a new world" – Peace Declaration of Hiroshima
 - **No blame (breaking the operation frame);** appealing to a higher, more developed humanity.
- **Milada Horáková** (PhD and JD) (No Easy Task - No Blame; operates in this framework)
 - A personal Peace Hero of mine (inspiration). Women's Suffrage Activist and Peace Activist; Expelled from her school at 17 for protesting against WWI; Prague City Social Welfare Department (interwar years); Nazi Occupation 1939 and Underground Resistance; captured in 1940 and sent to Terezin concentration camp. 1944 spared of execution.
 - 1946 wins a seat in the National Assembly; Communist coup in February 1948 (resigns but does not flee); arrested in on September 27, 1949. Trial May 31, 1950. Executed by hanging on June 27, 1950.

- "I have lost this fight but I leave with honour. I love this country, I love this nation, strive for their wellbeing. I depart without rancour towards you. I wish you, I wish you..."
- Conclusion: Education and Inspiration is derived from these stories so that we may be fueled to continue to work for the Peace Cause and lay the foundation for a better tomorrow for those who will come after us. This is no easy task.
 - "I understand that my task here in the world was to do good by seeing to it that life becomes better, and that all children can live well. And therefore, we often had to be apart for a long time. It is now already for the second time that Fate has torn us apart. Don't be frightened and sad because I am not coming back anymore. Learn, my child, to look at life early as a serious matter. Life is hard, it does not pamper anybody, and for every time it strokes you it gives you ten blows. Become accustomed to that soon, but don't let it defeat you."