

# Quakers believe

...that each person is uniquely valuable. International relations will always bring tensions, but our response to this should not be one of constantly upgrading weapons and training in readiness for war. Rather, we should put our energies and resources into developing and training for non-military ways of solving conflicts and averting wars.

Modern weapons have given human beings the power to destroy all life on this planet. It is a great and terrible power to have at our disposal. **War and the use of lethal force is something to lament, not celebrate.**

*"I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent."*

M.K. Gandhi

We believe that **we always have the choice to work for war or to work for peace**; to add to the distrust and hostility in the world or try patiently to undo and lessen it. *The responsibility lies with each one of us.*

Quakers work, locally, nationally and internationally to:

- ◆ address the root causes of violence, conflict and insecurity.
- ◆ promote non-violent approaches to work for peace, justice and social change.
- ◆ support peacebuilding and peacemaking in areas of violent conflict.
- ◆ promote disarmament.



Further information about Quakers (the Religious Society of Friends in Britain) and Quaker approaches to peacemaking can be obtained from:

**Northern Friends Peace Board**  
Victoria Hall, Knowsley Street, Bolton  
BL1 2AS

Tel: 01204 382330

<http://nfpb.gn.apc.org>

**Quaker Peace & Social Witness**  
Friends House, Euston Road, London  
NW1 2BJ

Tel: 020 7663 1048

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/qpsw>

