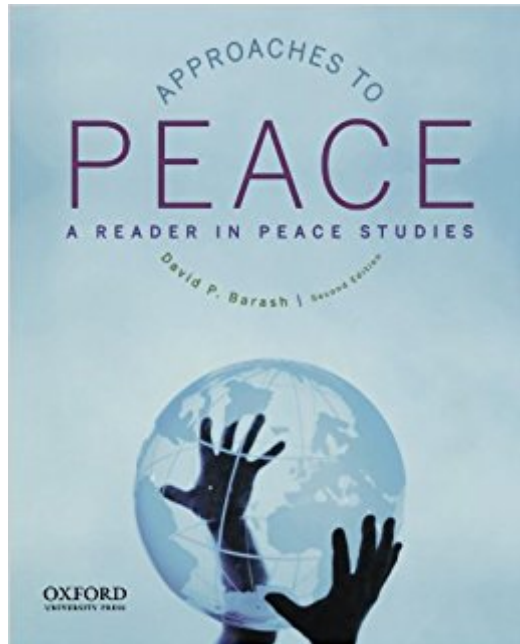




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# **Approaches To Peace: A Reader In Peace Studies**



## Synopsis

"For those endeavoring to approach peace, there is no shortage of challenges, practical as well as intellectual. Fortunately, there is also no shortage of inspiration and insight."--From the preface

*Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies, Second Edition*, provides a unique and interdisciplinary sampling of key articles and short literary selections focusing on the diverse facets of peace and conflict studies. Featuring both classic and contemporary work, it enables students to read highly influential articles while also introducing them to the most current perspectives in the field. Timeless classics from Leo Tolstoy, the Bhagavad Gita, Martin Luther King, Jr., Gandhi, and Henry David Thoreau are included alongside contemporary pieces by Johan Galtung, Betty Reardon, and many others. Updated to address current concerns, the second edition incorporates seventeen new articles, including selections from Al Gore on climate change, Jeffrey Sachs on Third World economies, and Desmond Tutu on reconciliation. A new chapter on terrorism offers work from Eqbal Ahmad, Richard Falk, Samuel Huntington, and others. Ideal on its own as a foundation text in any introductory peace studies course, *Approaches to Peace, Second Edition*, is also compact enough to use as a supplement with more specialized readings. Each selection is prefaced by a short introduction highlighting the author's background, the work's historical context, and the selection's significance in terms of the "big picture." Study questions and a list of suggested readings at the end of each selection also provide useful resources for students.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The best 'reader' I have seen--excellent choice of authors and selections. Closely fits my own

approach to the material."--F.R. Struckmeyer, West Chester University"Promises to provide students with foundational news concerning the nature of political social violence and visions of peace."--Joanne Boynton, University of Maine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

David P. Barash is a Professor at the University of Washington in the Department of Psychology (Ph.D. Zoology, U.W. Madison, 1970). Prolific author in the areas of peace studies, violence, antinuclear activism, and evolutionary psychology, gender and fidelity studies. He is the author of 25 books and more than 200 journal articles, and has been instrumental in establishing Peace Studies as a legitimate academic discipline. Recent works include *Natural Selections: Honest Liars, Selfish Altruists and Other Realities of Evolution* (Bellevue Literary Press, 2007); *Madame Bovary's Ovaries: A Darwinian Look at Literature* (Delacorte, 2005); *The Survival Game: How Game Theory Explains Cooperation and Competition* (Holt/Times Books, 2003); with wife Judith Lipton, *Gender Gap: The Biology of Male-Female Differences* (Transnational Pub, 2002); *The Myth of Monogamy* (W.H. Freeman, 2001; Paper Holt/Times Books, 2002).

A useful collection of multiple perspectives. As a springboard into authors I would not have otherwise known, this text is useful. As a comprehensive account of approaches to peace studies in a practical sense, it falls short. As an introduction to possibilities at a theoretical level, it succeeds.

This updated edition of Barash's book is well worth the reasonable price (as textbooks go). I will be teaching a university course from it beginning next week (upper level undergrad political science) and am very pleased with the broad range of essays and other materials. I trust it will stimulate discussion. Barash pulls together materials from many disciplines, which makes this even more valuable - and from many eras. Using this reader in combination with another on war, this will provide some excellent background and foundation to students who are interested in approaching both of these issues intellectually. Barash has brought together materials both thoughtfully and provocatively - not an easy balance to achieve. The essays are generally "just the right length", too - important when one wants to cover a certain amount of material in 15-16 weeks! The book is fairly priced, and beautifully printed/produced; that counts for a lot at a time when some companies are putting out books on flimsy paper with poor cover stock - and charging \$75 and up for them (recent experience with one of those -- NEVER AGAIN!) I consider this book a "keeper

I've used David Barash's *\_Approaches to Peace\_* several times in my college classes on peace and justice. This is unusual in itself, because I rarely use anthologies, preferring instead to go straight to the original sources themselves. I like Barash's approach, though, because it tries to be inclusive as possible. The anthology begins by looking at the definitions and possible causes of war, moves on to analyses of how to prevent war (negative peace), then to considerations of how to create structures of justice that eliminate the necessary conditions for war (positive peace). The rest of the book is devoted to readings that discuss nonviolence, religious pacifism, and historical peace movements. All of these general categories are exactly what one would want in a "peace studies" text. The problem is that the readings included in each category aren't always the best (or at least aren't the ones I would've selected). The single best two sets of readings are in the chapters on positive peace and nonviolence. The single worst (and I do mean *\*worst\**!) set of readings are when Barash deals with religious pacifism (it's as if he feels uncomfortable in this arena). In the section on peace movements, Vaclav Havel's essay is the single best piece, but one wonders why it (and perhaps the entire chapter) doesn't serve as the prologue to the anthology. Still, no anthology perfectly pleases everyone. Barash's is the best one out there I've discovered. Perhaps some changes will be made in a second edition. Regardless, I highly recommend this book.

*Approaches to Peace* consist some of the best historical peace lectures and examples set by worldwide prominent peace leaders, writers, and activists who have had shown considerable love and compassion toward the equality of human being. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in peace studies. This would be a valuable guide and experience.

book came in perfect condition

Read portions of this book. A bit 'dry', but otherwise a nice book to learn about the perspective of others.

For Class

Semi interesting, better than anticipated. Required textbook for class. Best textbook purchased for this class. Wouldn't have read it on my own.

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