

Paul Duffill - *Examining how indigenous indigenous pacifist traditions might support conditions for effective peacebuilding in the context of Israel-Palestine*

Peace and Conflict Studies scholarship often proposes a dichotomy (or tension) between what has been termed relationship-based approaches to peace and justice (such as mediation, negotiation, and dialogue), and rights-based approaches, the latter including pacifist or nonviolent social movement. While this distinction may have pedagogical or conceptual value, research from a range of scholarly fields concerned with international conflict resolution suggests that this distinction may be less productive in identifying best-practice lessons to guide and inform peacebuilding and social justice practice. For example various bodies of research show that equalising power between parties is a critical condition for the success of relationship-based methods of peacebuilding. What's more key figures of pacifist and nonviolent movements have argued that these movements drive improved inter-group relationships and effective peacebuilding. This paper will build on the concept of elicitive peacebuilding proposed by John Paul Lederach which sees indigenous initiatives not just as outcomes (or "ancient", "time-honoured" traditions), but also processes: indigenous ownership and participation over the various stages of peace and justice initiatives (including design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation). Elicitive peacebuilding will be applied as a theoretical lens to examine how indigenous pacifist peace and justice traditions might help to realise the conditions for success for relationship-based approaches to peace; principally how indigenous pacifist traditions can help to bring about a balance of power between parties and thus propel peacemaking and peacebuilding. This will be examined in the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict, with special focus on Australian government policy regarding Israel-Palestine, and the case study of the contemporary indigenous pacifist movement known as Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, launched in 2005 by a broad coalition of Palestinian civil society comprising over 170 civil society organisations in a range of sectors, and supported by various Jewish and Israeli groups and figures and other international partners.