

Tenants of Nonviolence

1. Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people
2. The beloved community is the framework for the future
3. Attack forces of evil, not persons doing evil
4. Accept suffering without retaliation, for the sake of the cause and to achieve the goal
5. Avoid internal violence of the spirit as well as external, physical violence
6. The universe is on the side of justice

Steps of Nonviolence

1. **Personal commitment** – Commitment of the masses always begins with the demonstration of that commitment from the leader.
2. **Information gathering** – The more information you have, the better equip they will be to approach the learning process (and conflict).
3. **Education** – The process of developing articulate leaders. Takes what you now know (from information gathering) to understand.
4. **Negotiation** – If un-level playing field, and the oppressor considers themselves to be right and you are attacking, that is a sign you need to **empower** the community and **disrupt** the system (not destroy). Compromise the method and ways to get to your goal, but not your goal itself.
5. **Direct Action** – Occurs when negotiations have broken down or failed to produce a just response. The purpose is to always bring two parties back to the negotiating table.
 1. Nonviolent direct action (must be direct and positive):
 1. Economic withdrawal (boycotting)
 2. Demonstrations
 3. Marching
 4. Civil disobedience (unjust laws)
 5. Picketing
6. **Reconciliation** – Possible if both parties see their part in implementing the solution.
 1. Three steps to reconciliation:
 1. Clear acknowledgment of wrong
 2. What makes it right now?
 3. What assures it won't happen again?