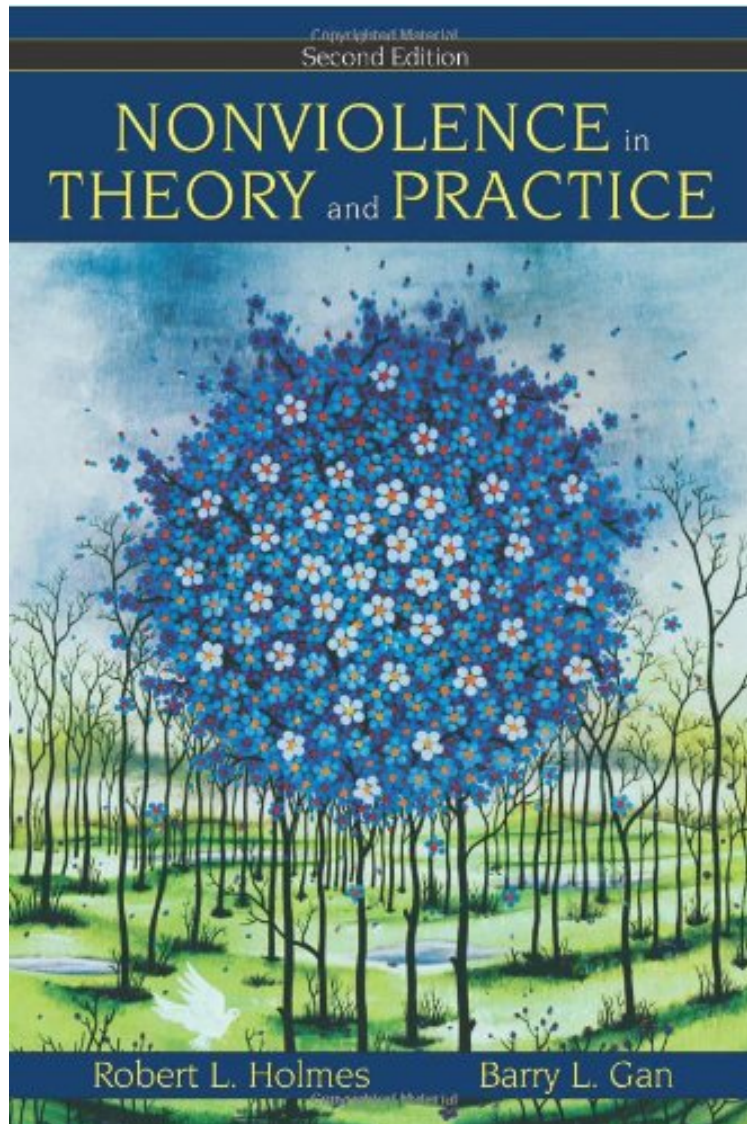


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## Nonviolence in Theory and Practice

*Barry L. Gan, Robert L. Holmes*  
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**Barry L. Gan, Robert L. Holmes : Nonviolence in Theory and Practice** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nonviolence in Theory and Practice:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Great reference!By J. BrenemanMore of a text than anything, this book serves as a good introduction to the various forms and roots of nonviolent philosophies.From ancient Jainism to modern peace writers, this will make a great basic reference for anyone, complete with sample writings and a few examples of nonviolence theories in action.If you're looking for depth, this won't give you any, but it is sure to enlighten and broaden your knowledge on the various theories and their presentation and after reading this you will

have a good knowledge base to work from. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Book is complete and in good condition, yet feels a bit brittle. By Moses Ramirez Book is complete and in good condition, yet feels a bit brittle. Very little writing on pages but is overall very clean. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. An incredibly good introduction. By Kerry Walters Robert Holmes has put together a wonderful collection of essays on the topic of nonviolence. Topics range from religious and philosophical foundations, to the nonviolent philosophies of Gandhi, Tolstoy, and King, Jr., to women and violence, pacifism, and case studies. The whole is prefaced by a very good Introduction in which Holmes analyzes the different meanings of "nonviolence," and is ended with a decent bibliography of relevant works on nonviolence. For the beginner, Holmes' anthology admirably makes three essential points about nonviolence: first, pacifism is one form of nonviolence, but is not identical to nonviolence; second, nonviolence isn't merely abstinence from physical violence; third, violence is not the same as force. Nonviolent resistance, for example, is clearly an exercise of force. Keeping points such as these in mind constitutes a good counterweight to the conventional assumption that proponents of nonviolence are quietistic, passive types who suffer any and all injustice. If I have any reservations about this excellent collection, it's that Holmes doesn't do justice to the religious foundations of nonviolence, particularly when it comes to Christianity and Buddhism. Moreover, his inclusion of parts of Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience" is rather perplexing. Thoreau (as Holmes admits) was not an advocate of nonviolence. Still, no book can do everything, and this one does much. Highly recommended.

This much-anticipated Second Edition adds twenty-three new readings to an already impressive collection of writings by some of the leading theorists and practitioners of nonviolence. Holmes and Gan provide a diversity of articles on both secular and religious origins of nonviolence; articles by or about Gandhi, King, Tolstoy, and Chavez; feminist approaches to nonviolence by contemporary writers; new articles addressing the theory and practice of nonviolence with respect to nature and animal rights; and fresh examples of the application of nonviolence to conflicts in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and Tibet. The collection includes the perspectives of those committed to nonviolence as a principle, those committed to nonviolence primarily as a tactic, and those for whom nonviolence is a personal practice. The selections have been arranged to engage those who are new to the philosophy of nonviolence. After an opening section on its origins, the next section focuses on three principal philosophers of nonviolence, followed by an examination of women and nonviolence and a discussion of pacifism. The final sections take a closer look at how nonviolence is implemented, including specific examples drawn from different regions of the world. The breadth and depth of articles promote critical thinking about the nature and efficacy of both violence and nonviolence and allow readers to discover the many ways in which nonviolence can be employed to achieve meaningful objectives.

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