

Trillions for War
Very Little for Humanitarian Aid

What's the best way to convert a terrorist to peace? Feed her/him well. Love him. Build him a nice house. Solve all the problems that create terrorism. Meet his material needs. When material needs are met, there will be room, time, and mood for the terrorist to lean toward love. Guide him toward expressing love. What's the best way to guide someone toward expressing love? Love them unconditionally, show by example that Love is the most powerful force, and that Love will solve all problems. Remember always that hate starts in unmet needs, especially unmet needs that contrast with material excess and inordinate power among those who will not help those in need.

Would it be immoral to spend money solving problems that turn people into terrorists, even if their skin is a different color from ours, even if their religious beliefs are different from ours? even if their political and philosophical beliefs are different from ours?

It would be immoral in a world in which striving for material fulfillment, wanting material possessions beyond need and accumulating inordinate power over others are the highest moral values. It would be immoral in a world where even destroying the world, the habitat for life, is morally justifiable to maintain material values, as it is in our world, where desire for wealth and power beyond need move us toward destruction of all life, of the earth, without regard for or even recognition of positive spiritual values.

It would be much cheaper to help people meet their needs than it is to try to destroy them, and there is the rub. There is far less profit, less money to be made in peace than in war. It has been far more profitable to convince the human population of the world that "They" are going to destroy us if we don't arm against them and fight them. "They," our enemy, is whoever those in power say it is and convince us it is, and "they" changes from war to war, from week to week, sometimes even from day to day.

We believe the propaganda efforts to convince us that they will destroy

us if we don't first destroy them and their ability to destroy us. We believe the propaganda that convinces us that we must stay ahead in the arms race to be safe. Staying ahead in the arms race costs billions of dollars, even trillions. There is little left to help those in need, to solve the problems that lead to terrorism and war. Trillions for war. Very little for humanitarian aid. Trillions to support hate. Very little to support Love.

Even so, Love is a powerful force. We can put it to work in our own lives. We can love those around us. We can refuse to hate, refuse to support hate, refuse to have it in our thoughts, our emotions. Love is contagious. How much more likely is Love to save the world than hate? Hate destroys the world. Try Love.