**“Glen’s Parallax Perspectives”** is a series of TV programs offering fresh ways for people to see issues such as foreign policy, social and economic justice, governmental functioning, the environment, and so forth. We provide voices and viewpoints that are rarely heard in mainstream media.

**Mainstream media, politicians, and culture see the world in conventional ways. Therefore, in order to solve problems, we need to see things in fresh ways.** Glen Anderson created this TV series to help people see things differently so we can solve problems at all levels from the local to the global.

This series title refers to “***parallax***“ – the view you get by looking from a different perspective. For example, put one finger in front of your nose and another finger farther away. Close one eye. Then open that eye and close the other. Your fingers will seem to move. This is called a “parallax” view. **This TV series invites you to look at issues from fresh perspectives.**

Each program airs three times a week (currently every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 5:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm) for the entire month on Thurston Community Television (TCTV), channel 22 for cable TV subscribers in Thurston County, Washington. TCTV is part of Thurston County Media. You can see their schedule at [**www.tcmedia.org**](http://www.tcmedia.org)

**You can also watch the program described below through your computer** at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). All episodes of “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” are posted on this blog’s “TV Programs” part and also in one or more of the categories listed in the right side of the computer screen. Also, see much information at the issue category headings at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

🡪 Please invite other people to watch this video and/or read this thorough summary at the
“TV Programs” part of [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

🡪 In addition to summarizing what we said during this article, this article ends with lists and links for many excellent sources of additional information.

**The FIRST HALF of the interview we conducted in November 2019 is the December 2019 TV program, which is also posted to this link on Glen’s blog:** [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities)The blog includes BOTH a link to watch the video AND ALSO a link to read a thorough typed summary of what we said during the interview. This thorough summary also includes links to many more sources of information.

**The SECOND HALF of the interview we conducted in November is the TV program for February 2020 – and also on the blog, along with this thorough summary:**

**PART 2 of “Nuclear Weapons: Updates on the Crisis and Opportunities”**

by Glen Anderson, the TV series’ producer and host
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**Glen introduced the viewers to this interview topic:**

He said this month’s interview on “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” provides information about nuclear weapons that most people do not know. When the Cold War ended 30 years ago, tensions eased, but recently the danger of nuclear war has increased again, so this hour provides important new information.

This interview reports on the growing dangers and also some exciting new efforts to restrain and reduce nuclear weapons – and some efforts to abolish them altogether.

**Three knowledgeable guests (Bob Delastrada, Joanne Dufour and Mark Fleming) from the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons** bring us up to date with information, insights and opportunities that you will find interesting and exciting.

**I encourage you to see** [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities) **for the video and the thorough summary of the December 2019 TV program based on the first half of our interview. But even you don’t watch PART 1, you will still understand PART 2 of that interview (our February 2020 TV program). Here is what we said in PART 2:**

We finished this interview’s PART 1 (the December 2019) program by explaining the historic action that the United Nations General Assembly took in July 2017 when it overwhelmingly passed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

We continued that conversation now. While supporting this U.N. Treaty, Mark said it’s ironic because the vast majority of the world’s nations had already adopted the 1970 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which was a grand bargain between the nations that had nuclear weapons and the nations that did not. The non-nuclear nations agreed to not acquire nuclear weapons in exchange for the nuclear nations moving toward eliminating theirs. Now – nearly half a century later – the nuclear nations still have their nuclear weapons.

Joanne added that Article VI of the NPT explicitly and specifically committed the nuclear nations to eliminating theirs, but not one of the nuclear nations has done so. Glen said the non-nuclear nations kept their end of the bargain but the nuclear nations did not. The nuclear nations have been violating the NPT for nearly half a century since 1970.

Bob added that this is timely now also because Turkey’s strong-man leader wants his nation to get nuclear weapons, so he wants to pull Turkey out of the NPT.

Mark said his recent research reveale that the Federation of American Scientists ([**www.fas.org**](http://www.fas.org)) found that perhaps as many as 22 nations without nuclear weapons might be interested in acquiring them. He said these include Saudi Arabia and Syria, and some others.

Joanne said Malaysia and Vietnam would not be doing this because they are part of a regional Nuclear-Free Zone (NFZ) – one of several regional NFZs in the world – where nuclear weapons are absolutely not allowed. She said a number of NFZs exist around the world, and about 120 nations are within those. She said we need to commend those nations for taking that principled stand – and “for calling out the hypocrisy of the nuclear nations that are not following” the NPT’s Article VI.

She also said the U.S. has stationed our own nuclear weapons in other nations, including Turkey. She suggested that other nations should start refusing to store the U.S.’s nuclear weapons on their lands.

**The Military-Industrial Complex is entrenched and powerful both in our national economy and in our political system. We can take actions to reduce its power:**

Glen said that the U.S.’s nuclear weapons – and our nation’s gigantic military – and our overall foreign policy – all exist within a larger political and economic system that has been shaped by powerful political and economic forces. Now our militaristic foreign policy and endless wars and nuclear weapons have become deeply entrenched in our national politics and our national economy. He said it would be easy to feel that we are trapped in that and can’t get out of that trap and turn toward peace. But he said the American peace movement and billions of people around the world are working to pull the U.S. out of the Military-Industrial-Political Complex’s trap.

When we were preparing for this interview, Bob mentioned corporate profits as a factor. Now he fleshed this out a bit. He said that here in Washington State we have Boeing, which makes significant parts of the U.S.’s intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and guidance systems for a new kind of nuclear weapon. Lockheed Martin is a major producer of several kinds of huge, expensive military weapons. General Electric has been a major producer of nuclear weapons. He said these and other companies are “eating at the government trough.”

Bob added that members of these companies’ boards of directors have long connections with the White House and Congress. Glen said retired generals and admirals are appointed to those companies’ boards of directors, so they create corrupt links that help those governments shape the government’s decisions. Bob said, “These are all ways in which the hunger for a larger arsenal gets fed, so these corporations have a vested interest in keeping war going.”

Glen said these major military contractors manipulate things in order to generate political support for their weapons. He said when the B-1 bomber was being developed, the prime contractor General Dynamics sub-contracted parts and sub-sub-contracted parts and sub-sub-sub-contracted parts into EVERY state and EVERY one of the U.S.’s 435 congressional districts. This was a way to pressure every member of the U.S. Senate and House into supporting the B-1 bomber’s gigantic budget.

When we were preparing for this interview, Mark had said that nuclear weapons keep getting “lavish funding,” and he had asked, “What do we get for our money?” Now he answered his question: “We get some very dangerous weapons.” He said we also get the expensive new nuclear weapons, and all of the expensive development, testing, and other factors that go into them. But, he said, unlike conventional weapons, we can’t really detonate the nuclear ones. In a conventional war we can blow up our weapons and then build new ones. Now with nuclear weapons the Military-Industrial Complex achieves that wasteful goal by perpetually “modernizing” them, so the budget always remains huge, even if we don’t conduct an actual nuclear war. He said that PART 1 of our interview had already discussed Obama’s decision to completely replace all of the U.S.’s nuclear arsenal, so that $2 trillion boondoggle is a major example.

**But, he said, perhaps this might be changing.** In 2019 when the House Armed Services Committee was working on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), that committee did not include some of the new weapons that were being requested. An example was the “low-yield” nuclear weapon for the Trident submarine. He said that this committee did not include funding, but the NDAA’s subsequent journey through the House and Senate might see that funding added anyway. It’s encouraging to see some move away from knee-jerk funding for unnecessary weapons.

[In December, however, the Senate and House added that funding back into the NDAA and stripped out several peace-oriented amendments. Congress passed – and Trump signed – this horribly militaristic NDAA.]

Mark said that in addition to the businesses that Bob had mentioned, political scientists also refer to what they call “the Iron Triangle” of those businesses plus the congressional committees plus the Executive Branch agencies. All three parts of “the Iron Triangle” “have a shared interest in promoting this,” he said. It “continues to keep the gravy train flowing.”

Glen said any governmental agency that can expand its budget gains more political power too by doing that. So the Department of Energy, where nuclear weapons are funded and built, has a vested interest in seeking more and more nuclear weapons – and more expensive ones too. This escalation increases that agency’s political power and the agency’s leverage over our nation’s economy.

**Joanne said she wanted to also talk about “the good guys” – the people who are organizing campaigns to divest money from entities that produce nuclear weapons.** She said individuals can sell any stocks they own in Boeing, Lockheed, and so forth. Likewise, divestment campaigns are urging pension funds, universities, religious bodies, and other entities to sell their stocks in those kinds of companies. She said an important factor in pressuring South Africa to end apartheid decades ago was the global campaign to divest from companies that had been investing in South Africa, so people’s pressure on these companies actually pressured South Africa’s government to end apartheid.

She said another strategy is for religious groups to deliberately buy a few shares of a company that makes military weapons and then attend that company’s annual shareholder meeting and speak up, introduce resolutions, and take other actions to push them away from military weapons production.

**She also said city and state governments have been passing resolutions calling for peace and calling for support for the U.N. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.**  She said this Treaty is so thorough that “it covers every possible aspect” of nuclear weapons. It would prohibit developing, possessing, storing, transferring, sharing, and other steps, and – of course – also prohibits using them.

She said legislation in the U.S. House would put Congress on record as supporting the intent of the U.N. Treaty. Our government is not yet wanting to ratify it, but this House legislation would support the Treaty’s intent.

[Later in the interview we discussed further the efforts people and local governments can take for peace, including the “Back from the Brink” campaign.]

**She urged us to take heart that positive moves are underway, and we can support these positive moves.**

**We opposed militarizing drones:**

Joanne and the rest of us are deeply concerned about the increasing militarization of the growing number of drones that fly around. We discussed the escalating violence that the U.S.’s militarized drones are causing in some parts of the world. Glen said Obama sharply escalated his drone wars beyond what Bush/Cheney had done, and now Trump is escalating the U.S.’s drone wars even further. Drones are already militarized. We must prevent them from including nuclear weapons too.

Joanne said an interfaith effort is working against that. She said the Interfaith Network on Lethal Drones has five videos, and they are available on YouTube and also at this link: [**www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html**](http://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html)

Our Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons will likely show one or more videos about militarized drones sometime in early 2020, so people could look for publicity or contact our local coalition through Glen at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**. See information about military drones at the end of this document. Also see information – including videos about militarized drones – at [**www.interfaithdronenetwork.org**](http://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org)

**More about our feelings concerning what has been happening recently and now – and more about our needs and values:**

Glen said that this interview’s first part aired on TCTV in December 2019, and people can still watch it at any time through [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities). That part of our interview discussed the role of fear in our nuclear weapons crisis, including how powerful forces provoke fear in order to make people accept wars and cruelty – including wars and cruelty against Muslims and Latin Americans. Now we followed up with more insights. Glen said that when people feel great fear, this can also cause them to feel overwhelmed and powerless. He said powerful forces promote fear in order to make the population subservient to them, so the population will accept systemic cruelty and wars and nuclear weapons. The cruelty includes cruelty to Muslims and cruelty to Latin American immigrants.

He said that in March 2003 Bush and Cheney attacked Iraq with such overwhelming violence – and their explicit policy of “shock and awe” – that sought to make the Iraqi people feel so intimidated and powerless that they would yield to the U.S. military instead of fighting back against the U.S.’s occupying army. Our nation’s dominant forces are doing that to the American public too. Those powerful forces want to overwhelm us with “shock and awe” so we will feel powerless to resist them – powerless to change our foreign policy or abolish nuclear weapons.

This pattern exists in a bigger scope than nuclear weapons or attacking Iraq. The problem exists in the larger context of our overall society and culture. In the first part of our interview Bob spoke about the role of fear, and now he added more insights, including placing these concerns in the larger context and adding some big-picture insights.

Bob said people talk about America being “free.” He said really “we are free to consume. We have a materialistic culture.” He said the U.S.’s foreign policy and our big military and our powerful weapons are for the purpose of coercing other countries “because we want the resources.” He said he recently had heard the statistic that for the rest of the world like people in the U.S. live, we would need 13 planet earths. He said these realities point to “the fundamental issue of values: what do people really value?” He asked whether people agree with the glib assertion that “whoever has the most toys wins.” He urged every person to seriously ask himself or herself “what really matters in your life?”

Glen said Bob’s insights can help all of us shift the conversation. The consumerism and materialism – and the making people feel afraid and overwhelmed and small – are issues we must confront and overcome. He said most Americans feel like we don’t have much power anymore. On the job we feel powerless in relation to the boss or higher-level managers. In families people feel that they can’t control their spouses or kids. So the TV ads urge us to buy big pickup trucks so we will feel powerful and we can ride higher than the small cars on the road and we can plow through streams in pristine terrains. If you buy the big pickup truck, “then you will be a real man again!” In American culture machismo is also linked with our foreign policy of dominating other nations and also linked with our nuclear weapons. For men who feel somewhat powerless, war is promoted as the remedy. Similarly, Trump won the 2016 election by promising to “Make America Great Again.”

Mark added that part of the pitch to us is that “there is no alternative.” In order to protect this life that we have, we must have a powerful military and nuclear weapons, so we can get those resources. This worldview is promoted as the only reality we can consider. The system does not encourage us to think for ourselves and consider whether this is really what we want – and whether this is the only way we can live. He agreed with Bob that people should think seriously about what they really value and what we really need.

Glen said all four of us in this TV interview work actively with the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. When we educate and interact with the local community about nuclear weapons, we also help people think about these kinds of considerations along with learning the factual information. We want people to connect at a level that is different and deeper than merely the rational side. Mark emphasized that our outreach strategy includes empowering people in order to counter the natural feeling for folks to feel powerless in relation to big, powerful nuclear weapons – to feel that they are too small and powerless to do anything about the problem. But empowering ourselves is where the change must begin.

Glen added that we’ll include these additional dimensions – including helping people empower themselves to take smart actions – in a four-session course that he, Mark, Joanne, and Jim Manista will be conducting at Olympia Unitarian-Universalist Congregation from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on four consecutive Monday evenings starting February 24. **See a short description of the course near the end of the document you are reading now.** We encourage people to register now at [**https://www.ouuc.org/education/adult-education/**](https://www.ouuc.org/education/adult-education/) Glen said the four presenters would like to facilitate this course also on future dates at other locations. For information about future opportunities, contact him at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**

**How to overcome the debilitating feelings of fear, powerlessness, etc.:**

Glen asked our three guests how each of them thinks people could overcome the debilitating feelings related to nuclear weapons.

Bob said he is a Christian whose faith compels him to work to abolish nuclear weapons. He appreciates other people’s different faiths, and also affirms that at a deep level people’s spiritual values take us beyond ourselves. Glen added that pretty much all of the major faiths – including most mainstream denominations within Christianity – urge peace and oppose nuclear weapons. Bob said that in addition to getting beyond fear, our spiritual values do take us beyond ourselves because we are compelled to replace the debilitating feelings with strong peace. This would be a better path where humans can live together better, and this better path is actually joyful.

Joanne said that connecting with the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and meeting our members has been “such an amazing experience.” She urged our TV viewers to look for people who are talking about these issues and to work with them to help solve the problems. She affirmed that the other three of us here and a few other persons hold a huge **“ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS”** banner every week over I-5 calling for nuclear weapons to be abolished. She affirmed the great number and variety of activities organized and conducted by our Olympia Coalition and our statewide coalition (Washington Against Nuclear Weapons. [**www.WANWcoalition.org**](http://www.WANWcoalition.org)). We persist in organizing and accomplishing many smart activities. She said it is both satisfying and empowering for people to discover that they are not alone. She urged people to participate in the Olympia Coalition’s enjoyable and productive meetings on the third Thursday of each month in downtown Olympia. [See information at the end of this document.]

Mark agreed with Bob that we must look beyond our selves, and he agreed with Joanne that we must work together for good purposes. He also urged us to understand the policies related to nuclear weapons – what these policies are, how they came about, what they plan for the future, etc. – and to recognized that they were devised by human beings. Since these policies were done by human beings, those policies can also be undone. He said one place where nuclear weapons had their origin was near Albuquerque, New Mexico. He said there used to be a billboard near Albuquerque with a picture of a mushroom cloud and the caption, “It began here. It can end here.” He said he likes that message.

He said the U.S. was the first nation to build and use nuclear weapons, so we must be leaders also in abolishing them. He said the U.S. used our nuclear weapons to show the world what a great power our nation is, so this motivated other nations who wanted to be great powers to also develop their own nuclear weapons. These weapons were devised by humans – not handed down by any divinity – so humans must take responsibility to abolish them. We built them, so we can dismantle them.

Mark urged us to draw upon our best values, including faith values. Let’s work with other people who share our values. He said that during the early 1980s the Nuclear Weapons Freeze movement informed people and mobilized people to push for bold change. Back then, President Reagan was thinking the U.S. could win a nuclear war, and he was radically escalating the nuclear arms race. But public pressure pushed Reagan back from that, so he ended up publicly stating that nuclear war could not be won, and Reagan made a treaty with the USSR’s Mikhail Gorbachev to eliminate a whole category of nuclear weapons from Europe. [The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty from 1987 was destroyed by Trump just recently, and now Trump is provoking a recklessly dangerous new nuclear arms race with Russia.]

Glen stated that Reagan’s change of heart was not his own idea. Grassroots pressure from people all across the nation – including local Freeze campaigns – forced him to reverse his policies. Glen said that here in Thurston County he and other local people organized the Thurston County Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign that spent less than one year organizing a massive campaign that won a county-wide ballot issue in the November 1982 election. Local voters here called upon the federal government to make a deal with the Soviet Union to freeze – absolutely stop – the building, testing and deployment of nuclear weapons. We built a huge campaign with more than 300 volunteers, and we won in a landslide with more than 62% of the vote countywide.

Mark said local Freeze elections had passed in communities in Massachusetts and elsewhere, so we replicated that here in Thurston County. During the 1970s and 1980s people had been bogged down in controversies about numbers and details: How many weapons? How much megatonnage? How much “throw-weight”? In what other ways did the USSR’s weapons and the US’s weapons compare or differ? Bogging down in those details distracted people from the huge overriding issue. The Freeze campaign was brilliantly simple and easy for the public to understand: JUST STOP!

Mark said that although the Freeze did not eliminate nuclear weapons, it changed the nation’s consciousness and it changed our national policy.

Glen held up the book titled ***Confronting the Bomb: A Short History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement***. It was written by historian Lawrence Wittner. Glen explained this book’s important lesson for the movement against nuclear weapons. People have condemned nuclear weapons ever since the US dropped two atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945. In 2010 the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation organized a local speaking engagement by historian Lawrence Wittner. Professor Wittner had researched and documented the effectiveness of public opposition to nuclear weapons over the decades for his book titled, ***Confronting the Bomb: A Short History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement***. **His research proved that when people protested in a variety of nonviolent ways, we made progress in limiting nuclear weapons, but when the public failed to speak out and act boldly, nuclear weapons increased.** His book traced the cycles of public protest constraining the government’s nuclear madness and public quietness that allowed the government to escalate nuclear weapons.  **Clearly, we need a huge nationwide movement again nowadays to stop the horribly dangerous and expensive new nuclear arms race!**

Glen reinforced Joanne’s urging for people to connect with the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and Washington Against Nuclear Weapons, our statewide coalition of 48 member organizations that keeps growing larger.

Mark said that after the Freeze campaign’s great successes, the movement slowed down, and when we were less active in pushing, nuclear weapons crept back upward again. Glen said Congress had responded to the Freeze campaign by passing a very weak version, but that inadequate action by Congress took the wind out of the peace movement’s sails because some people thought that this little victory was enough to appreciate. Mark said this proves that “the organizing can’t be just about episodes, but it has to be ongoing.” We really must continue and persist.

Joanne added that recently she had the opportunity to attend a meeting of the United Nations committee on disarmament. (This is called the UN’s “First Committee,” because it really was the very first committee that the UN had created in 1945.) This committee included representatives from all of the 193 nations that belong to the UN. She was very much impressed with the great number of voices and their shared concern for peace. She said the first voices at the committee meeting were representatives from groups of nations (such as the group of Non-aligned Nations and the nations that have joined together to create regional transnational Nuclear-Free Zones). After those voices, the committee heard from a number of nations.

She said that on July 7, 2017, 122 nations had signed the UN General Assembly’s call for a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. She was impressed by hearing so many voices call for disarmament “one after another, after another, after another, after another.…” She said the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN, [**www.icanw.org**](http://www.icanw.org)) has been working directly within many nations around the world to promote the UN Treaty leading up to its overwhelming “YES” vote on July 7, 2017.

She said we here who are working to abolish nuclear weapons “are not alone! This is a real global effort.” She urged us to connect with our international neighbors and listen to them and work together. She said this is a beautiful thing – if we can recognize it.

Bob said that at a recent event where we were doing public outreach, a retired Navy man visited his information table. Bob invited him to sign our petition, but the retired Navy man declined and said there is nothing we can do about nuclear weapons because that issue is so overwhelming and it has a life of its own. Bob said we are not confined by fate; we do have wiggle room, and we really can solve the problems. He affirmed that people who have good values can and will feel compelled to do what is right. On the one hand, “we have no guarantees, because the future is the future.” But nevertheless, “here and now we need to make those statements that reflect who we are and what we value in life.”

Glen added a strong insight from existentialist philosophers who agree with Bob. “They say we are stuck in this crazy world, and the odds are against us in many ways. The world is negligent or even hostile, but as human beings – the existentialist philosophers say – **we absolutely must make decisions**. You can’t just sit this one out. You’ve got to come out one way or another.”

Bob added that even trying not to make a decision is in itself a decision.

Mark added that the decisions we make are the things that give meaning to our lives. Glen said this is how we become real persons. We make real decisions, take real actions, and accomplish things. We must do that in this nuclear weapons crisis.

Joanne said decisive actions are necessary. Otherwise the Berlin Wall never would have come down and Apartheid never would have ended.

Glen said the people who settle for the status quo say, “That’s just the way things are. Women have to always be subservient to men because that’s just the way things are. White people need to lord it over people who are not white because that’s just the way things are. This is what we’re up against on every one of these issues of social justice, political issues, and so forth! We must say NO, it does not have to be unjust. We must change things. We must take action.”

Mark said some people say that if we eliminate nuclear weapons somebody would hide one and we’d all be at risk. We need to counter that. Glen said it is possible to conduct very thorough inspections. Bob said, “Verifiable inspection is one of the points that all of these groups are saying is part of the solution.” Glen said the Freeze campaign included verifiable inspections.

**At global and national levels, let’s pass laws and treaties – and enforce them:**

Glen said that nuclear weapons are a problem at the global and national levels, so we need to work at the global and national levels. Many strategically smart opportunities exist right now. He said the U.S. government needs to do these three things right now:

1. **Ratify a number of treaties that the U.N. and other bodies have passed, but that the U.S. government has failed to ratify.** When the U.S. obstinately refuses to ratify sensible, humane, peace-oriented treaties, the U.S. makes itself an outlier, a “rogue nation.” The U.S. likes to think of itself as a leader in the world, but our nation hurts our status when it keeps refusing to act responsibly and ratify those treaties.
2. **Cooperate with international efforts to enforce treaties.** For example, the U.S. needs to join the International Criminal Court and participate as a responsible member of the world community instead of being an outlier – a rogue nation. Trump has made the U.S.’s “go-it-alone” habit even worse by rejecting international treaties and agreements that have been working well. Bob said that “the U.S. has lost all credibility as a nation to lead” in international matters.
3. **Support the New START Treaty between the U.S. and Russia.** This is the last treaty left between the U.S. and Russia regarding nuclear weapons. The existing START Treaty had a 10-year lifespan and will expire in February 2021. The Trump regime seems to oppose renewing it. Trump destroyed the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force (INF) treaty that Reagan and Gorbachev had created in order to eliminate provocative, destabilizing nuclear weapons in Europe. Trump is doing everything possible to provoke a new nuclear arms race, and he is pushing ahead with reckless new nuclear weapons, so Russia is following along with dangerous new nuclear weapons of their own. We need the New START Treaty so we can reduce nuclear weapons, but instead Trump is pushing us into nuclear war!

**The 5 points in the “Back from the Brink” campaign are smart and necessary:**

Glen said many other opportunities also can reduce the dangers of nuclear war. A variety of non-profit organizations within the American peace movement – and some members of Congress – support these opportunities to reduce the likelihood of nuclear war. Some excellent nationwide organizations have put together 5 of these goals into a nationwide campaign they call **“Back from the Brink”** ([**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org)) because we really are at the brink of global destruction.

**The 5 goals in the “Back from the Brink” campaign are smart, necessary and urgent to bring us back from the brink of nuclear war:**

1. **Renounce the option of using nuclear weapons first.** The U.S. must reject our “first-strike” policy and promise that we will never start a nuclear war. We support the legislation in Congress that would accomplish that.

2. **End the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. president to launch a nuclear attack.** The U.S. Constitution explicitly states that only Congress can declare war, but since 1945 presidents have claimed the de facto power to start the most horribly destructive war possible **without** any congressional approval, and since 1945 Congress has allowed that **unconstitutional** power to persist. Two bills in the U.S. Senate and two companion bills in the U.S. House would limit Trump’s (or any subsequent president’s) ability to launch nuclear weapons. Their legislation would prohibit any U.S. President from launching a nuclear first strike without a declaration of war by Congress. The legislation would allow a president to retaliate if the U.S. has been attacked, but it would prevent the president from launching first without Congress’s explicit authorization.

3. **Take U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert.** Even worse than being “first-strike” weapons, the U.S.’s nuclear weapons are primed for immediate “hair-trigger” launching. This means that a computer accident or miscalculation or miscommunication or a crazy president or a crazy person elsewhere in our system *(e.g*., in the “Dr. Strangelove” movie) can start a nuclear war. There are ways to build more checks and balances and human decision-making steps into the system to prevent sudden irrational or accidental launching. For example, we could remove the warheads and physically move them to different locations. In the 1980s people wanted the US and USSR to take these kinds of precautions and referred to them as “confidence-building measures” that would establish a track record of small agreements that would reduce tensions and build mutual trust. Then we could build upon them to make successively larger agreements to significantly reduce the danger of nuclear war. We need these kinds of “confidence-building measures” nowadays between the US and Russia, and also between India and Pakistan (nuclear-armed long-term enemies), and so forth.

**More reasons for taking nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert:**

* Some years ago a worker dropped a wrench into a missile silo, damaged the nuclear warhead, and nearly destroyed much of Arkansas.
* Also, there have been cases where responsible persons actually disobeyed direct orders to launch because something seemed fishy, and the skeptical persons turned out to be correct and saved the world from destruction.
* In another case a flock of geese was mistaken for a barrage of incoming missiles, and in another case a weather balloon was mistaken for a nuclear missile.
* Extreme technology and “first-strike” weapons do not allow time for thoughtful human decision-making. Now the U.S. is considering using Artificial Intelligence to decide whether to launch nuclear weapons. We absolutely must slow down the process.
* Taking our weapons off hair-trigger alert is a prudent, common-sense precaution.

4. **Cancel the plan to replace our entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons.** We discussed this in PART 1 of this 2-part interview (the December 2019 TV interview at this link: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-part-1-of-nuclear-weapons-updates-on-the-crisis-and-opportunities)). Some of the new nuclear weapons that Obama, Trump and Congress have committed to building (and have funded with our tax dollars) are even more provocative and dangerous than the currently existing ones that they would be replacing. Canceling that reckless new plan would save American taxpayers nearly two billion dollars that we could invest in bold programs to meet human needs, end poverty and homelessness, fund high quality health care for everybody, fund a Green New Deal, and so forth. Mark said he recently saw data reporting that since the 1940s the U.S. has spent $51 TRILLION on nuclear weapons. We said the U.S. ranks low among the world’s nations in important indicators of well-being (29th in life expectancy, 30th in infant mortality, and so forth). The U.S. ranks the very worst among rich developed nations because instead of investing in people we divert our tax dollars into paying for wars and nuclear weapons.

5. **Actively pursue a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.** The best example of this would be the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which we discussed near the end of PART 1 of this interview. (Our December 2019 TV interview at the link in the paragraph immediately above.)

**All five points fit together well into the “Back from the Brink” campaign.** This “Back from the Brink” campaign has been urging nationwide and local organizations – and state and local and governments – to pass resolutions supporting this package of five goals. See the campaign’s website, [**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org)

Specific federal legislation addresses most of these five individual points. I have posted information about the relevant federal legislation to the “Nuclear Weapons” part of my blog: [**www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers). Also see the next page for more information.

**Federal legislation:**

Several U.S. Senators and Representatives have introduced some pieces of legislation to reduce the danger of nuclear war. We did not have time to mention all of these right during the TV interview, but **I posted to my blog the topics of the legislation, the House and Senate bill numbers, and the contact information for our local members of Congress. See** [**www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers)

Bob said that although the U.S. senators from Washington State have done some good things on other issues, they have been terribly negligent – have seriously failed us – regarding nuclear weapons. Glen thanked Bob for having arranged meetings with the Tacoma office staff members of both U.S. senators and members of the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. The senators’ staffers have listened politely but done nothing. The senators have refused to sign on to several pieces of federal legislation to reduce the likelihood of nuclear war (no first use, removing the president’s sole authority, etc.).

One senator said she did not want to “tie the president’s hands,” but Bob said, “He needs his hands tied!” Mark added that the purpose of the Constitution **is** to tie the president’s hands. The Constitution’s framers “were very skeptical of an out-of-control executive.” Bob added that a number of books have been written by psychoanalysts who are alarmed at Trump’s dysfunctional mental condition and his mental illnesses.

**🡪 Contact U.S. Senator Patty Murray** through her website, [**www.murray.senate.gov**](http://www.murray.senate.gov), or by phone in Washington DC at 202-224-2621 or toll-free 866-481-9186 or in Seattle at 206-553-5545.

**🡪 Contact U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell** through her website, [**www.cantwell.senate.gov**](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov), or by phone in Washington DC at 202-224-3441 or in Seattle at 206-220-6400.

**🡪 Contact U.S. Representative Denny Heck** through his website, [**www.dennyheck.house.gov**](http://www.dennyheck.house.gov), or by phone in Washington DC at 202-225-9740 or in Lacey at 360-459-8514.

Also, we are urging the **Washington State Legislature** to pass **SHM 8006** and **HJM 4008**, so the State Legislature can urge Congress to reduce the danger of nuclear war. Glen said he took the lead in drafting these for our statewide coalition. For information about these visit [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org) and/or contact Glen Anderson at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net** You can get more information through the legislature’s very user-friendly and informative website, [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov), where you can type in the four-digit bill number.

**How can people help at the LOCAL level?**

Olympia’s people have done good work on nuclear weapons in years past. We’re doing more now. Glen said all four of us are active members of the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. Our local coalition does a lot of educational outreach to the community, holds a gigantic **“ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS”** banner over I-5 for one hour every week, pushes Congress to do what’s right, and takes other smart activities. We invite anyone to invite us to present speaking engagements at local organizations, faith communities, and so forth. Our monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month downtown are informative, productive and actually enjoyable. I posted our Olympia Coalition’s trifold brochure to my blog at [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/flyer-olympia-coalition-to-abolish-nuclear-weapons**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/flyer-olympia-coalition-to-abolish-nuclear-weapons)

Please contact Glen Anderson, the chairperson of the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**. You can request more information and/or add yourself to our e-mail roster to receive occasional news and/or invitations to events regarding nuclear weapons.

We want to stop the drone wars and prevent putting nuclear weapons on them. The Olympia Coalition might show one or two videos about drones in the near future. (See information at the Interfaith Network on Lethal Drones ([**https://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html**](https://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html))

The Olympia Coalition is part of a statewide coalition, Washington Against Nuclear Weapons, [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org), which has 48 organizational members.

Joanne arranged for a four-session course titled, **“NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOWADAYS: WHAT YOU CAN KNOW AND DO.”** Joanne, Mark, Glen, and another local member, Jim Manista, will conduct that course on four consecutive Monday evenings starting February 24, 2020, so the public can learn and become empowered to take positive actions. We’ll hold the course at the Olympia Unitarian-Universalist Congregation in NW Olympia. To get information or sign up, visit [**https://www.ouuc.org/education/adult-education/**](https://www.ouuc.org/education/adult-education/) or phone the church office at (360) 786-6383 or contact Joanne at (206) 550-1841 **jdufourhc@msn.com** or me at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**

**Here is a short description of the course:**

The Cold War ended three decades ago, but nuclear weapons have persisted ever since. Many recent and current actions by the U.S. government have sharply increased the danger of nuclear war in the "new cold war", so now the "Doomsday Clock" is the closest to midnight it has been since 1953. However, most Americans do not want to think about nuclear weapons. Those who do care can benefit by updated information; those who haven't yet taken on the cause might find reasons to care. This course will provide necessary information for all in a supportive environment.

While some information may be frightening, other information shows possibilities for solving the problems. Instead of feeling overwhelmed by the difficult, scary realities, we can learn without feeling powerless. We can empower ourselves to help support the positive efforts that are happening at the global, national and local levels.

Four well informed presenters from the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons will address different parts of the topic and facilitate discussion. We’ll offer handouts.

Themes include present issues such as current government policies (the US Nuclear Posture Review), persistent myths, the status of MAD (mutually assured destruction) thinking, non-violent resistance, legislation to support or oppose, as well as international disarmament initiatives.

This course is designed for people who are concerned about nuclear weapons and want to update their knowledge, people who are relatively new to the topic, and those who are working to stop the growing danger of nuclear war. It offers a safe environment for learning and exploring what all of us can do.

We hope you will join us.

A few minutes before, Glen had mentioned the effective grassroots organizing in Olympia that occurred in 1982 with the Thurston County Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign. More recently, in 2005 some Olympia area people organized “Beyond Hiroshima” events and succeeded in getting the Olympia City Council to unanimously pass an anti-nuclear resolution in February 2005 as part of a nationwide organizing effort of city mayors as part of a nationwide campaign by Mayors for Peace and the US Conference of Mayors’ 2020 vision campaign. Also, in 2018, the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons succeeded in convincing the Olympia City Council to pass another strong resolution calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

People throughout our region are active in the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, [**www.gzcenter.org**](http://www.gzcenter.org). Ground Zero is located right next to the Trident nuclear submarine base in Kitsap County, about 60 miles north of Olympia and 20 miles west of Seattle.

We warmly invite anyone interested to join the groups I have mentioned, get onto their mailing lists and e-mail lists, and participate in their smart, enjoyable activities.

**Many excellent organizations work to reduce the danger of nuclear war:**

Excellent sources of information exist, including many non-profit organizations working to reduce the danger of nuclear war and to abolish nuclear weapons altogether.

Glen Anderson’s blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org), has a category containing “Nuclear Weapons” information. It includes dozens of blog posts relevant to various aspects of nuclear weapons and related issues.

It also includes links so you can watch our December 2019 and February 2020 TV interviews with these knowledgeable guests. The blog’s “Nuclear Weapons” category includes links to some previous TV programs about nuclear weapons. The blog posts for these TV programs also include thorough typed summaries of what we said during the interviews – and links to many sources of information.

We did not have time to list many organizations orally during the TV interview, but I am posting links here. Many of these work specifically on nuclear weapons, but some of these organizations work on other aspects of peace issues:

**American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)** [**www.afsc.org**](http://www.afsc.org)

**Albert Einstein Institution** [**www.aeinstein.org**](http://www.aeinstein.org)

**Arms Control Association:** [**www.armscontrol.org**](http://www.armscontrol.org)

**Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists** [**www.thebulletin.org**](http://www.thebulletin.org)

**Campaign for Peace and Democracy** [**www.cpdweb.org**](http://www.cpdweb.org)

**Center for Public Integrity** [**www.publicintegrity.org**](http://www.publicintegrity.org)

**Center on Conscience & War** [**www.centeronconscience.org**](http://www.centeronconscience.org)

**Code Pink** [**www.codepink.org**](http://www.codepink.org)

**Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft (COMD)** [**www.comdsd.org**](http://www.comdsd.org)

**Courage to Resist** [**www.couragetoresist.org**](http://www.couragetoresist.org)

**Creating a Culture of Peace** [**www.creatingacultureofpeace.org**](http://www.creatingacultureofpeace.org)

**Federation of American Scientists** [**www.fas.org**](http://www.fas.org)

**Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)** [**www.fcnl.org**](http://www.fcnl.org)

**Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)** [**www.forusa.org**](http://www.forusa.org)

**Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space** [**www.space4peace.org**](http://www.space4peace.org)

**Global Zero** [**www.globalzero.org**](http://www.globalzero.org)

**Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action** [**www.gzcenter.org**](http://www.gzcenter.org)

**Institute for Policy Studies** [**www.ips-dc.org**](http://www.ips-dc.org)

**International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)** [**www.icanw.org**](http://www.icanw.org)

**Just Foreign Policy** [**www.justforeignpolicy.org**](http://www.justforeignpolicy.org)

**Lutheran Peace Fellowship** [**www.lutheranpeace.org**](http://www.lutheranpeace.org)

**National Priorities Project** [**www.nationalpriorities.org**](http://www.nationalpriorities.org) **and** [**www.costofwar.com**](http://www.costofwar.com)

**National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund (NCPTF)** [**www.peacetaxfund.org**](http://www.peacetaxfund.org)

**Nonviolent Peaceforce** [**www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org**](http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org)

**Nuclear Age Peace Foundation** [**www.wagingpeace.org**](http://www.wagingpeace.org)

**National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC)** [**www.nwtrcc.org**](http://www.nwtrcc.org)

**Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA)** [**www.orepa.org**](http://www.orepa.org)

**Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons: (360) 491-9093** **glenanderson@integra.net**

**Peace Action** [**www.peace-action.org**](http://www.peace-action.org)

**Peace Alliance** [**www.peacealliance.org**](http://www.peacealliance.org)

**PeaceWorkers** [**www.peaceworkersus.org**](http://www.peaceworkersus.org)

**Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS)** [**www.pjals.org**](http://www.pjals.org)

**Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR ) www.psr.org**

**Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace & Justice** [**www.rachelcorriefoundation.org**](http://www.rachelcorriefoundation.org)

**Union of Concerned Scientists** [**www.ucsusa.org**](http://www.ucsusa.org)

**Unitarian Universalist Association’s disarmament blog** [**www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament**](http://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament)

**Veterans for Peace – Olympia chapter 109** [**www.vfp109rcc.org**](http://www.vfp109rcc.org)

**Veterans for Peace** [**www.veteransforpeace.org**](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)

**War Resisters International** [**www.wri-irg.org**](http://www.wri-irg.org)

**Washington Against Nuclear Weapons** [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org)

**We Stand for Peace and Justice** [**www.standforpeaceandjustice.org**](http://www.standforpeaceandjustice.org)

**Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)** [**www.wilpf.org**](http://www.wilpf.org)

**World Beyond War** [**www.worldbeyondwar.org**](http://www.worldbeyondwar.org)

**Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility (WPSR)** [**www.wpsr.org**](http://www.wpsr.org)

**War Resisters League (WRL)** [**www.warresisters.org**](http://www.warresisters.org)

**Many other excellent sources of information exist. Here are just a few:**

15-minute video from 2014 about the danger of nuclear war: It is serious but with a lot of wit too: [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Y1ya-yF35g**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Y1ya-yF35g)

[**Amazing Grace: The Role of the Holy See in the Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons | Disarmament | UUA International | UUA.org**](https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/amazing-grace-role-holy-see-treaty-ban-nuclear-weapons) is at this link: **https://duckduckgo.com/?q=Amazing+Grace%3A+The+Role+of+the+Holy+See+in+the+Treaty+to+Ban+Nuclear+Weapons+%7C+Disarmament+%7C+UUA+Inter-national+%7C+UUA.org&atb=v22\_c&ia=web**

Avoiding a global catastrophe (nuclear weapons): [**www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/nuclear-weapons-averting-global-catastrophe**](http://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/nuclear-weapons-averting-global-catastrophe)

Back from the Brink: To sign up for Back from the Brink's email list or endorse as an organization, please click here: [**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org) AND [**https://www.preventnuclearwar.org/take-action**](https://www.preventnuclearwar.org/take-action)

***Confronting the Bomb: A Short History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement*** is an informative and inspiring book written by historian Lawrence Wittner. His research documented the effectiveness of public opposition to nuclear weapons over the years. His research proved that when people protested in a variety of nonviolent ways, we made progress in limiting nuclear weapons, but when the public failed to speak out and act boldly, nuclear weapons increased.

Disarming Our Planet: See many resources at this blog, including [**https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/listening-our-neighbors**](https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/listening-our-neighbors) and [**https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/how-impossible-became-possible**](https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/how-impossible-became-possible) and [**https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/amazing-grace-role-holy-see-treaty-ban-nuclear-weapons**](https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/amazing-grace-role-holy-see-treaty-ban-nuclear-weapons) and[**https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/nuclear-weapons-averting-global-catastrophe**](https://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/nuclear-weapons-averting-global-catastrophe)

Drones can be militarized. We must prevent drones from becoming part of our nuclear arsenal, and stop militarized drones altogether. Information about the videos “National Bird” and “Unmanned” comes from the Interfaith Network on Lethal Drones, [**www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html**](http://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html) The Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons might show it in the Olympia WA area in early 2020.

During the 1964 presidential campaign people were worried that if Barry Goldwater were elected President he would be too willing to launch nuclear weapons, so Lyndon Johnson’s campaign aired a TV ad with a girl and a sunflower. She picked off the sunflower’s petals in the familiar one-at-a-time way, and then the narrator began to count down to zero, and the TV screen showed a nuclear mushroom cloud. You can watch that famous ad at this link: [**https://www.google.com/search?q=1964+daisy+girl+political+ad&oq=1964+daisy&aqs=chrome.2.0j69i57j0l4.5817j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8**](https://www.google.com/search?q=1964+daisy+girl+political+ad&oq=1964+daisy&aqs=chrome.2.0j69i57j0l4.5817j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

Federal legislation about nuclear weapons: Some U.S. Senators and Representatives have introduced some pieces of legislation to reduce the danger of nuclear war. Glen Anderson created a two-page fact sheet and posted it to his blog at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-this-good-legislation-to-reduce-nuclear-weapons-dangers)

Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare: [**www.interfaithdronenetwork.org**](http://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org) Also see: [**Films - Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare**](https://www.interfaithdronenetwork.org/films.html)

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN): This worldwide organization generated an international movement that convinced the United Nations General Assembly to overwhelmingly pass the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in July 2017. [**www.icanw.org**](http://www.icanw.org)

Is nuclear disarmament impossible? Could advances in international law help to abolish nuclear weapons? Some kinds of weapons (land mines, chemical weapons, etc.) have been abolished worldwide. See this: [**www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/how-impossible-became-possible**](http://www.uua.org/international/blog/disarmament/how-impossible-became-possible)

State legislation: Our statewide coalition, Washington Against Nuclear Weapons (WANW) is urging the Washington State Legislature to pass SHM 8006 and HJM 4008, so the State Legislature can urge Congress to reduce the danger of nuclear war. (These are the bill numbers for the 2019-2020 legislative session, but the bill numbers are likely to change in future legislative sessions.) See information at [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org) and at the Legislature’s website, [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

***The Doomsday Machine*** (2017) book by Daniel Ellsberg is fascinating, informative, and highly readable.

UN General Assembly First Committee: A good source of information is “Reaching Critical Will,” which has actively provided reporting, analysis, and documentation archives from the UN General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security since 2002. [**www.reachingcriticalwill.or**g](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org) and [**http://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga**](http://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga)

Washington State legislation urges Congress to take action to reduce the danger of nuclear war. In the 2019-2020 legislation session the Senate bill is SJM 8006 and the House bill is HJM 4008, but those bill numbers will likely change in future legislative sessions. Info: [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov) and Glen Anderson (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net** and Washington Against Nuclear Weapons [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org) (206) 547-2630

Watch this **3-minute video** for compelling information about nuclear weapons – and why we must stop them. It focuses on the danger of an accident or mistake causing a nuclear war – and the “Nuclear Winter” that could destroy earth’s food system and kill most people on earth. Here is the short video: [**https://youtu.be/qRnU0bqsyq0**](https://youtu.be/qRnU0bqsyq0)

Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) has information about “Reaching Critical Will” and the United Nations’ First Committee. See [**http://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga**](http://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga)

**Glen’s closing encouragement:**

Glen thanked our guests for sharing their knowledge and insights:

* Bob Delastrada
* Joanne Dufour
* Mark Fleming

He also thanked the people who have been watching this interview.

Our world is in extremely serious danger because of two crises that threaten our existence. The climate crisis and nuclear weapons could destroy much life on earth. Grassroots movements to protect us from these crises have been growing, but the dangers are escalating, so the grassroots movements for both crises must grow rapidly and become more effective.

Please share information with your friends. Urge them to watch this interview and/or read the more extensive information I have posted to my blog. See page 1 of this document for how people can watch this interview on TV. The video and the thorough summary you are reading now are posted to my blog. Visit [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) and click the category for either “TV Programs” “Nuclear Weapons.”

**Please share those links with your friends!** You can help spread the information and encouragement to solve the problems.

You can get information about a very wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) or by phoning me at (360) 491-9093

You can get information about a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)or by phoning me at
(360) 491-9093 or e-mailing me at **glenanderson@integra.net**

I end each TV program with this encouragement:

**We're all one human family, and we all share one planet.**

**We can create a better world, but we all have to work at it.**

**The world needs whatever you can do to help!**