Nuclear Weapons Are a Very Dangerous Local Problem

Glen Anderson wrote this informative essay and will summarize it for the Carnegie Group Meeting on Monday January 4, 2021

**Introduce myself and my work against nuclear weapons:**

I’m a lifelong Washingtonian who has lived in Lacey since 1975.

Since the late 1960s I have devoted my life to working as a volunteer for peace, nonviolence, social justice, and progressive political issues. I have volunteered a lot of work to abolish nuclear weapons since the mid-1970s, when I began working to oppose the Trident nuclear submarine, which was being planned to replace the Polaris-Poseidon nuclear weapons system at Bangor in Kitsap County. In 1982 I was a very active member of the Thurston County Nuclear Weapons Freeze campaign, which conducted a one-year county-wide initiative campaign calling upon the federal government to totally stop (“freeze”) all aspects of our nation’s nuclear weapons activities. We won a landslide victory in the November 1982 election with 62 ½ percent of the vote county-wide.

In May 2017 I founded the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and I have chaired it during most of the time since then. We educate the community and elected officials. We work on a variety of strategically smart activities. I’ll mention this local group again near the end of my talk.

**The Carnegie Group works on local issues.
Nuclear weapons are a local issue.**

**Here are six reasons why nuclear weapons really are a local issue:**

**#1:** Even if no nuclear war occurs, the federal budget always spends huge amounts of money on weapons that we need for other purposes (health, environment, reducing poverty, helping local governments, etc.).

**#2:** If a nuclear war does happen, our local community would be destroyed or very seriously damaged, and a great many of our people – voters – would die.

**#3:** If a nuclear war were big enough, it would cause so many horrendous fires that it would push very huge amounts of ash into the upper atmosphere, where – scientists say – it would block out sunlight for several years of “nuclear winter” (years of freezing temperatures and years of no sunlight so no food crops) causing most people on earth – including local people – to die by freezing or starving to death.

**#4:** Since 1945, **both** political parties in Congress and in the White House have been deceiving themselves into thinking that nuclear weapons protect us, but actually they threaten us. Local people – and local governments – need to stand up for sanity and reality.

**#5:** A new nationwide effort – the **“Back From The Brink”** campaign ([**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org)) – is a sensible 5-point set of common-sense, practical policy solutions that would significantly reduce the danger of nuclear war. **The Back From the Brink Campaign is urging local governments to pass resolutions supporting its smart 5-point program as a way to urge Congress and the President to protect us from nuclear Armageddon.** We are urging our local governments to do that. I’ll say more about this later.

**#6:** The Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons is urging each local government to pass a simple resolution supporting the “Back from the Brink” campaign. See information and resources at [**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org). We and members of our statewide coalition, Washington Against Nuclear Weapons ([**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org)) testified at state legislative committee hearings in 2019 and 2020. The Senate committee did pass our bill, but it died in the Senate Rules Committee.

**The Cold War ended 30 years ago,
but the problem continued and actually escalated:**

On August 6, 1945, the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later the U.S. dropped another atomic bomb on Nagasaki. These bombs killed far more than 100,000 innocent civilians. This mass murder was a **war crime** – a crime against humanity that **violated international law** in several ways.

The U.S. has never repented of that horrible war crime. Instead, for 75 years the U.S. has been provoking a nuclear arms race to cause horrendously more slaughter worldwide. Ever since 1945, the U.S. has maintained a willingness to escalate a conflict into using more powerful hydrogen bombs.

**“First-Strike” and “Star Wars”:**

For decades the U.S. has maintained a “first-strike” policy – the willingness and intention to start a nuclear war. For decades the U.S. has designed and built nuclear weapons NOT to retaliate against an attack, but rather specifically to be used to start a nuclear war. **The nuclear weapons the U.S. has been designing, building and deploying since the 1960s have been specifically to carry out our “first-strike” policy of starting a nuclear war!**

The plan is to destroy another nation’s missiles while they are still in their silos, before they can launch them.

In 1983 President Reagan ratcheted up the “first strike” policy by proposing his “missile defense” scheme, which people derided as “Star Wars.” It’s also called the “Strategic Defense Initiative” (SDI). Edward Teller, “the father of the hydrogen bomb,” talked Reagan into this, and Reagan announced SDI publicly on nationwide TV without consulting with any scientific advisors. The scheme was to launch the U.S.’s “first strike” nuclear missiles and destroy nearly all of the Soviet Union’s missiles while they’re still in their silos. Then the “Star Wars” “missile defense” scheme would supposedly destroy the relatively few dozens or hundreds of missiles that the Soviet Union could launch in retaliation.

Of course, once the scheme was funded, the military-industrial-congressional complex kept the funding rolling, and Presidents and Congresses of **both** political parties benefited from campaign contributions. The scheme was not workable, and it kept failing tests, so the Pentagon actually put “homing devices” in the targets so the “missile defense” missiles could hit them sometimes. This wasteful boondoggle has been funded lavishly for almost 40 years now.

**Here is why “first-strike” is actually counter-productive in addition to being cruel and illegal under international law:** During an international crisis, a nation fearing that we are on the verge of launching its nuclear weapons might launch its own first, so their own missiles will not be destroyed while still in their silos. This fear of the U.S.’s “first strike” could actually provoke – rather than deter – a nuclear attack. We must CANCEL our “first-strike” nuclear weapons (Trident, etc.) and ABOLISH all nuclear weapons entirely.

The U.S.’s first-strike policy and first-strike weapons escalated since the late 1960s – and escalated even further under Trump. The U.S.’s decades-old reckless, dangerous “first-strike” policy is well entrenched and has been SOLIDLY BI-PARTISAN because of the massive power of the military-industrial complex and the weapons manufacturers’ huge campaign financing and lobbying, so “first-strike” will persist after Trump unless public pressure forces the government to stop.

**The government planned to kill many more people than the public was told:**

During the 1950s and 1960s the U.S. policy was “Mutually Assured Destruction” (MAD), which actually was a game of “nuclear chicken” resulting in mutual suicide. Our government was planning “massive retaliation” against the Soviet Union if it attacks the U.S. – and ALSO against China even though China did not attack us. But China was Communist, so our government’s plans ALWAYS included destroying China too.

Leaked documents showed the U.S. government **expected a nuclear war to kill 600 MILLION people** worldwide, and **that was OK**.

One of President Reagan’s top planners of nuclear war said that if **40 MILLION** Americans died in a nuclear wear, we would WIN if we killed **50** million Russians.

**More problems with nuclear weapons:**

Throughout the past half-century I have been studying nuclear weapons and working hard to abolish them. Occasionally the public, the media, and elected officials have paid attention, but most of the time they have ignored the problem. They have deliberately refused to deal with it honestly. News media and elected officials almost always assume that nuclear weapons protect us, they are necessary, problems are only minimal, other nations are the problems while the U.S. is innocent, etc.

President Reagan’s Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces said if a nuclear attack was imminent, here is how you can survive it: “Dig a hole, cover it with a couple of doors and then throw three feet of dirt on top…. It’s the dirt that does it… if there are enough shovels to go around, everybody’s going to make it.” 🡪 *You can brainstorm the many, many reasons why this is not workable for the short term, let alone the long term. Contact Glen for additional reasons.*

If a nuclear attack seemed imminent, the government’s OFFICIAL PLAN for saving Seattle’s people was to use Metro buses to evacuate everybody from Seattle by running back and forth across Snoqualmie Pass to Yakima. 🡪 *You can brainstorm the many, many reasons why this is not workable. Contact Glen for additional reasons*.

In 1996 the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion about nuclear weapons. The ICJ said no treaty explicitly prohibits them They can be used only for self-defense and consistently with the principles of international humanitarian law. What the ICJ failed to do was recognize that the U.S.’s policy is “first-strike” (not self-defense), and that international humanitarian law actually prohibits nuclear weapons because they do not distinguish between military personnel and innocent civilians and because nuclear weapons are so horribly disproportionate compared to whatever prompted the nuclear attack.

Many millions of people – actually billions of people – have been in serious danger of dying in nuclear war for the past 75 years. The statistical risk each year might be small, but even a small percent of risk every year is **cumulative**, so over the years **the odds are against us**! Nuclear weapons are **not** sustainable!

Over the years many accidents and “near-misses” have occurred but were covered up by the government and the news media. The risks of accidents, human error, and miscalculations have continued, even though the government and media have refused to discuss these dangers in rational and thoughtful ways. Secrecy has allowed those extreme risks to fester. Only strong public awareness and action can stop the secrecy and corruption that allow these dangers to persist and escalate.

Suppose that **right now** – as we speak –something goes haywire (an accident, a computer error, or a president’s reckless emotional outburst). A mistake at this moment could cause ALL OF US to **die** by this time tomorrow.

The U.S. Constitution specifies that only Congress can declare war, but since 1945 a *de facto* loophole has existed, because a president can start the biggest war of all – a nuclear war – on his own authority without Congress’s consent.

Let’s just hope that we never have a president who is emotionally unstable, reckless and impulsive! OOPS! TOO LATE! From 2017 to early 2021 we DO have a president who is emotionally unstable, reckless and impulsive! But for 75 years ALL presidents have been endangering us all – in violation of the U.S. Constitution. The danger persists even after Trump, as it has persisted since 1945, when the U.S. escalated a conventional war into atomic bombing.

New federal legislation seeks to close that nuclear loophole. In the past few years I testified to state legislative committees about supporting a state-level bill urging Congress to close that loophole, but the Legislature failed to pass it.

Some people think deterrence has worked because we have not used nuclear weapons since 1945. Actually the U.S. **has** **used them** by always keeping our nuclear weapons ready to attack in an instant, and also by **repeatedly threatening** to attack certain other nations (especially nations that do not have nuclear weapons of their own) on many occasions. This is “using” nuclear weapons in the same way that a robber stealing your wallet at gunpoint is guilty of Armed Robbery even if he never shoots. In criminal law, threatening with a weapon **is** “using” it. **During an international crisis when a president says “all options are on the table,” this is an explicit threat to use nuclear weapons!**

**Even if deterrence were true**, accidents and near-misses keep occurring and keep us in perpetual danger of nuclear destruction.

We can make step-by-step progress toward reducing the dangers of nuclear war. Decades ago, “Confidence Building Measures” (CBMs) were proposed so the US and the Soviet Union could mutually agree to take small verifiable steps and develop confidence that we could jointly agree to take additional steps toward reducing the danger. The world needs to promote CBMs now, instead of the escalation that Trump and Congress have recently been provoking.

Nuclear weapons do **NOT** protect us. The notion that having nuclear weapons will “deter” other nations from attacking us is fatally flawed. Nuclear weapons threaten other nations and provoke those nations into building their own nuclear weapons. Global tensions rise. The “deterrence” theory is a reckless psychological experiment full of errors at both human and technical levels. If anything goes haywire, nuclear weapons could destroy us in just a few minutes. The “deterrence” theory leads to mutual suicide!

The serious professionals who support nuclear weapons are most enthusiastic about our nuclear-powered submarines with their Sea-Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs), such as the Trident and the next generation that will replace Trident. Submarines run silently and are hard to detect. They can sneak up on other nations and fire missiles. Some of these serious professionals have reasons why they would be willing to let go of the land-based missiles (Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) and bombers, but they think submarines are really, really necessary – and “first-strike” is good.

**The problem is larger and more systemic than the “first-strike” policy. Nuclear “deterrence” is a sham too. We must abolish nuclear weapons altogether!**

**Trump made things even worse:**

The nuclear weapons suicide crisis had already been established and lavishly funded for seven decades before Trump took power, and it will persist after Trump goes unless “We the People” abolish nuclear weapons.

Although President Reagan had done many reckless things with nuclear weapons, he did finally recognize the danger and joined with the Soviet Union’s Mikhail Gorbachev in enacting the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. This eliminated an entire category of nuclear weapons from Europe and significantly reduced the danger of a Cold War conflict escalating into nuclear war. The treaty was working well, but Trump pulled out of the INF Treaty. Then both the U.S. and Russia began a reckless new nuclear arms race.

President George W. Bush pulled out of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and heightened Russia’s fears of a U.S. first strike.

Trump pulled out of several more treaties, including the “Iran nuclear deal” (the JCPOA). Trump assassinated Iran’s top general and repeatedly threatened war against Iran. This prompted Iran’s voters to elect hard-liners who oppose the U.S.

In 2009 President Obama publicly said he wanted to eliminate nuclear weapons, and he supported the “New START” Treaty, which would reduce nuclear weapons. But the Senate Republicans refused to ratify this treaty unless Obama committed to what has been called the “complete rebuild” – the replacement of ALL of the U.S.’s nuclear warheads, missiles, bombers and submarines with ALL NEW ONES. The projected cost was likely to exceed $1.2 TRILLION, but everybody expects it to be cost much, much more than that. Obama foolishly caved in to the Senate Republicans, and they ratified the New START Treaty – but only for 10 years ending in February 2021.

New START is the last remaining treaty between Russia and the U.S. that protects us from nuclear war. It will expire in February 2021. Russia’s Putin has been eagerly wanting to renew it, but Trump has always refused to renew it. Trump has been provoking a reckless new nuclear arms race, and he is seriously endangering life on earth. But even if that treaty expires, the horrendously expensive replacement of ALL nuclear weapons (the “complete rebuild”) will proceed. This will provoke a new nuclear arms race and waste the money that we need for many serious national problems, such as Medicare for All and a Green New Deal.

Early in Trump’s administration he issued an extensive new federal policy (“Nuclear Posture Review”) that radically increases the likelihood of nuclear war. Trump radically increased the numbers of nations he was willing to attack with nuclear weapons – and radically increased the reasons for launching nuclear weapons.

Trump ordered the Pentagon to design the plans for EVERY war we conduct to include a path for escalating it into an opportunity for him to launch nuclear weapons.

Both parties in Congress funded new “first-strike” nuclear weapons that are designed for the purpose of making it easier to start a nuclear war. House Democrats gave Trump generous funding for these, his Space Force, and other military excesses – more money than Trump had requested. The likelihood of nuclear war has been increasing and is extremely serious!

Even apart from Trump, the Pentagon has been escalating the use of “Artificial Intelligence” to not only gather and analyze enormous amounts of information but also to let algorithms decide when to launch nuclear weapons.

**As bad as the past has been – and as bad as the present is – the future will be even worse if presidents and Congress keep getting their way!** Joe Biden has always supported militarism, and he appointed a Secretary of Defense who is serving on the board of Raytheon, one of the biggest manufacturers of military weapons, including nuclear weapons.

All throughout the Cold War the U.S. began each kind of escalation – each dangerous new kind of nuclear weapon – and the Soviet Union responded in kind. Now – 30 years after the Cold War ended – the U.S. is provoking a new nuclear arms race with recklessly dangerous new weapons and threats of war against several nations, so Russia is reacting to match the U.S.’s escalations.

New nuclear weapons are being designed to be MORE USABLE than those that exist now. Weapons only the size of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs are called “small” now, and the U.S. government wants to launch them for a “limited” nuclear war. **But here is no such thing as a “limited” nuclear war.** A small nuclear war could kill many millions of people.

Once a small war starts, more retaliations would likely be launched back and forth. A large nuclear war could throw so much ash and dust into the upper atmosphere that **the sun would be blocked out for ten years! We would have a decade of “nuclear winter” in which we would all freeze and no plants could grow. Everyone would either freeze to death or starve to death.** Nearly all humans and other animals on earth would die.

The danger of nuclear war is sharply increasing for some additional reasons we don’t have time to discuss today.

Many experts – including many former military leaders, weapons designers, and political leaders – are trying to alert us to the extreme danger to our survival. The peace movement is revving up again to save Planet Earth and humanity.

**People are organizing worldwide
– and nationally – and regionally – and locally:**

**American news media – and American politicians – say very little about nuclear weapons.** They have always downplayed the extreme dangers – except when they blame other nations for those dangers, even though the U.S. has caused the vast majority of the dangers.

**People all over the world have been organizing against nuclear weapons, but you don’t see that news in the mainstream media.**

**Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons:**

In July 2017 the United Nations General Assembly passed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by a 3/5 majority. The worldwide non-profit organization that promoted it so effectively (Internal Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, [**www.icanw.org**](http://www.icanw.org)) won the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.

As of today, 53 nations have ratified the Treaty, and those nations are incorporating it into their national laws. We expect many more nations to ratify it. The Treaty will go into effect on Friday January 22.

This will put worldwide moral pressure on the nine nations that have nuclear weapons. The U.S. and Russia have nearly all of the world’s nuclear nations, but the other nations (France, UK, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea) with only a few dozen or a few hundred pose a serious threat to world survival.

**My February 2021 TV program will feature Joanne Dufour sharing exciting, powerful information about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.** Cable TV subscribers in Thurston County WA can watch it on channel 22 three times a week throughout February (Mondays 1:30 pm, Wednesdays 5:00 pm, and Thursdays 9:00 pm). Everybody everywhere can watch it – and read a thorough summary of what we said – long into the future through the “TV Programs” and “Nuclear Weapons” parts of my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

**National legislation:**

Some good legislation has been pending in Congress. The information at this link was current as of October 31, 2020: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-good-legislation-and-defeat-bad-legislation-about-nuclear-weapons**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/urge-congress-to-pass-good-legislation-and-defeat-bad-legislation-about-nuclear-weapons) Some legislation will return in the 2021 Congress, perhaps revised and perhaps with new bill numbers.

**Back from the Brink:**

In 2017 two nationwide organizations – the Union of Concerned Scientists ([**www.ucsusa.org**](http://www.ucsusa.org)) and Physicians for Social Responsibility ([**www.psr.org**](http://www.psr.org)) – created the **“Back from the Brink”** campaign ([**www.preventnuclearwar.org**](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org)) to promote a smart proposal of **five public policy changes** that would significantly reduce the likelihood of nuclear war. Many other organizations (nationwide and local, including the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) have joined the effort.

The **“Back from the Brink” campaign** recognizes problems and **proposes five practical solutions:**

We call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

 1. Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first

 2. Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. president to launch a nuclear attack

 3. Taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert

 4. Cancelling the plan to replace its entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons

 5. Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals

I posted this to my blog about the **“Back from the Brink”** campaign: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/the-back-from-the-brink-campaign-promotes-five-smart-changes-to-reduce-the-danger-of-nuclear-war**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/the-back-from-the-brink-campaign-promotes-five-smart-changes-to-reduce-the-danger-of-nuclear-war)

**Ground Zero:**

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action ([**www.gzcenter.org**](http://www.gzcenter.org)) was established as an immediate next-door neighbor to the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor in Kitsap County in the late 1970s. It has been organizing nonviolent opposition to the Trident and all nuclear weapons. Their website is very informative.

**Washington Against Nuclear Weapons (WANW):**

A few years ago Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility ([**www.wpsr.org**](http://www.wpsr.org)) created a statewide coalition to oppose nuclear weapons: Washington Against Nuclear Weapons [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org) (206) 547-2630. This statewide coalition has more than 50 member organizations throughout Washington state, including in Olympia. (*See below*)

**Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (OCANW) (incl. Local Govt efforts):**

In May 2017 I led the effort to create the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. We meet every month and carry out various activities to educate and mobilize the public and put pressure on the government. We meet at 5:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month by Zoom video. **Contact us at (360) 491-9093** **glenanderson@integra.net****.**

We are an active part of Washington Against Nuclear Weapons [**www.wanwcoalition.org**](http://www.wanwcoalition.org) (206) 547-2630. This statewide coalition currently has 50 member organizations throughout Washington state.

For the December 2019 and February 2020 TV programs I produced for Thurston Community TV I interviewed Mark Fleming, Joanne Dufour and Bob Delastrada. In addition to airing on TCTV three times a week throughout those months, I also posted both videos to my blog, and I also typed up a very thorough summary of what we said during each interview. You can watch these videos and/or read the thorough summaries at my blog’s “TV Programs” section and “Nuclear Weapons” section. Also, I have been posting much additional information onto the “Nuclear Weapons” part of my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)

**My February 2021 TV program will feature Joanne Dufour sharing exciting, powerful information about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.** (See the previous page for information about the Treaty.) As of today, 53 nations have ratified the Treaty, and those nations are incorporating it into their national laws. We expect many more nations to ratify it. The Treaty will go into effect on Friday January 22. This will put worldwide moral pressure on the nine nations that have nuclear weapons. The U.S. and Russia have nearly all of the world’s nuclear nations, but those with only a few dozen or a few hundred pose a serious threat to world survival.

**OCANW conducts a FREE ONLINE course titled,
“NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOWADAYS: What You Can Know and Do”**

**This FREE 4-session course is informative and fascinating!**

**🡪 Sign up now to take it during January 2021 (your choice of Tuesdays or Saturdays).**

**🡪 Please share this opportunity with your friends and organizations all over the U.S.
or beyond. We use Zoom video, so people everywhere take our course.**

The Cold War ended three decades ago, but nuclear weapons remain a threat to the world. Many recent and current actions by the U.S. government have sharply increased the danger of nuclear war in a “New Cold War,” so now the “Doomsday Clock” is the closest to midnight it has ever been, since it was devised in 1953. Also, the U.S. is spending more on nuclear weapons than ever before – even more than at the peak of the Cold War!

However, most Americans do not want to think about nuclear weapons. **This course provides necessary information for people who are new to the issue – and also for people whose knowledge is out-of-date.** Much has changed recently, and dangers are increasing in several ways, but politicians and mainstream news media are failing to inform the public about what people need to know.

This 4-session course presents the serious information in a supportive environment and also lifts up some positive ways people can solve the problems. **We go far beyond “doom and gloom” to actually empower people to support the solutions.**

Four well informed people designed this course and trade off during the sessions so you’ll enjoy a mix of voices and areas of expertise. We designed this course of four two-hour sessions to help people regardless of how much they have known about nuclear weapons.

**Topics include:**

* The evolution of science that led to nuclear weapons
* How nuclear weapons – and the policies for using them – have changed over the years
* New dangers since the 2016 election
* Impacts of nuclear weapons testing on innocent people
* Decades of grassroots organizing to stop the arms race and abolish nuclear weapons
* International efforts to prevent nuclear war, including the very exciting treaty passed by the U.N. General Assembly
* Participants’ own feelings and values related to nuclear weapons
* The power of nonviolent resistance

Nuclear weapons are frightening, but **ordinary people can learn what they need to know and can take smart actions to reduce the dangers**. Instead of feeling overwhelmed by hard, scary realities, **this course helps people learn and also empower themselves to support the positive efforts that are happening at the global, national and local levels**.

The course is presented by four well-informed persons from the Olympia WA area:

* Glen Anderson is chair of the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (OCANW)
* Mark Fleming is the secretary of the Rachel Corrie Chapter #109 of the Veterans for Peace in Olympia
* James Manista is a peace activist who recently faced federal charges for resisting the Trident nuclear submarine
* Joanne Dufour has extensive experience with nuclear weapons, international humanitarian law, and other issues

**We are volunteers who offer this course for FREE.**

**🡪 How to sign up:**

We’ll present the same course twice a week during January 2021, so you may choose whichever one is better for you. If you have a scheduling conflict in any week, you may catch that session on that week’s other day.

**Choose either:**

* **Tuesdays:** Pacific Time 5:00 (sharp) to 7:00 pm January 12, 19, 26, and February 2. (If you’re in another time zone, please adjust for your local time.)
* **Saturdays:** Pacific Time 10:00 a.m. (sharp) to 12:00 noon January 16, 23, 30, and February 6. (If you’re in another time zone, please adjust for your local time.)

🡪 Send Joanne Dufour an e-mail to **jdufourhc@msn.com** with this subject line: **OCANW course on Nuclear Weapons**. Or you may phone Joanne at (206) 550-1841. **Please provide your name, email address, home mailing address, and phone number. Specify whether you want Tuesdays or Saturdays. Joanne will e-mail you the Zoom video link so you can join our course.**

Also, we will e-mail each participant a number of readings and videos that flesh out the topics of each of the four class sessions. These are not mandatory (like school assignments were), but we do encourage participants to read at least some of the readings and watch at least some of the videos, because they do provide important information and insights.

**We hope you will join us!**

For more information about the course or about nuclear weapons,
contact Glen Anderson (360) 491-9093 glenanderson@integra.net

Also see the **“Nuclear Weapons”** part of Glen’s blog, [www.parallaxperspectives.org](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)
The direct link is <http://parallaxperspectives.org/category/nuclear-weapons>

About Glen Anderson:

He is a lifelong Washingtonian who has lived in Lacey since 1975. You can reach him at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**

Since the late 1960s Glen has devoted his life to working as a volunteer for peace, nonviolence, social justice, and progressive political issues. He has volunteered extensively both as an independent individual and through a variety of non-profit organizations. Over the years he has worked especially for such wide-ranging goals as making peace with Vietnam, abolishing nuclear weapons, converting from a military economy to a peacetime economy, protecting the environment and climate, working for various social and economic issues (such as abolishing the death penalty), and promoting nonviolence at all levels throughout society. He writes, speaks, and conducts training workshops on a wide variety of topics, such as how to help people build strategically smart and effective nonviolent grassroots movements for whatever issues the workshop participants care about.

Glen’s work against nuclear weapons:

He has volunteered a lot of work to abolish nuclear weapons since the mid-1970s, when he began working to oppose the Trident nuclear submarine, which was being planned to replace the Polaris-Poseidon nuclear weapons system at Bangor in Kitsap County. In 1982 he was a very active member of the Thurston County Nuclear Weapons Freeze campaign, which conducted a one-year county-wide initiative campaign calling for a total stop in all aspects of our nation’s nuclear weapons activities. We won a landslide election in 1982 with 62 ½ percent of the vote county-wide.

In May 2017 he founded the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and he has chaired it during most of the time since then. We educate the community and elected officials. We work on a variety of strategically smart activities. For more information about OCANW, contact Glen at (360) 491-9093 **glenanderson@integra.net**