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Consistently Opposing Killing

From Abortion to Assisted Suicide, the Death Penalty, and War

Rachel M. MacNair (ed.), Stephen Zunes (ed.)

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Description

This work explains an increasingly popular view dubbed the Consistent Life Ethic, which holds that all life deserves reverence, so all social support for actions that destroy life should be withdrawn. The call is for opposition to abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia and other forms of killing to be consistent. Supporters of this view, shared widely in these pages, include figures from the Dalai Lama and Nobel Peace Prize winner Mairead Corrigan Maguire to actor Martin Sheen and *Village Voice* columnist Nat Hentoff. It is at once an ethical, religious and political ideology, explored here in its application to actions from treatment of unborn humans to infants, the disabled, the poverty-stricken, war combatants and animals.



Endorsement from Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking*

The societal wounds of racism, poverty, and a penchant for using violence to address problems are intimately connected to the death penalty, to war, to the killing of the old and demented, and to the killing of children, unborn and born. If more people were familiar with the consistent life ethic, as expounded in this book, then the voice of all unseen vulnerable people would be better heard.

Endorsement from Dr. Alveda King, Founder of King for America, Director of African American Outreach for Gospel of Life, and niece of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The authors consistently and rationally support the position of opposition to murder in a society where wrong may seem right, to the detriment of life, liberty and justice for all. This is a recommended read for serious thinkers and for all seeking truth.

Author Information:

RACHEL M. MACNAIR is Director of the Institute for Integrated Social Analysis. A Psychologist and Sociologist, she is also author of *Psychology of Peace: An Introduction* (Praeger 2003) and *Perpetration Induced Traumatic Stress: The Psychological Consequences of Killing* (Praeger, 2002).

STEPHEN ZUNES is Professor of Politics and International Studies at the University of San Francisco, where he chairs the Middle East studies program. He serves as a member of the advisory committee for the Tikkun Community and as the chair of the board of academic advisors for the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. Previous books include *Tinderbox: U.S. Middle East Policy and the Roots of Terrorism* (2003) and *Nonviolent Social Movements: A Geographical Perspective* (1999).

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