



# From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding

*From Pickwick Publications*

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## **From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding** From Pickwick Publications

As experiences of suffering continue to influence the responses of identity groups in the midst of violent conflict, a way to harness their narratives, stories, memories, and myths in transformative and nonviolent ways is needed. *From Suffering to Solidarity* explores the historical seeds of Mennonite peacebuilding approaches and their application in violent conflicts around the world. The authors in this book first draw out the experiences of Anabaptists and Mennonites from the sixteenth-century origins through to the present that have shaped their approaches to conflict transformation and inspired new generations of Mennonites to engage in relief, development, and peacebuilding to alleviate the suffering of others whose experiences today reflect those of their ancestors. Authors then explore the various peacebuilding approaches, methods, and initiatives that have emerged from this Mennonite narrative and its preservation and dissemination in subsequent generations. Finally, the book examines how this combined historical sensitivity and resulting peacebuilding theory and practice have been applied in violent conflicts around the world, noting both successes and challenges. Ultimately, *From Suffering to Solidarity* attempts to answer a question: How can a robust historical infrastructure be used to inspire empathetic solidarity with the Other and shape nonviolent ways of transforming conflict to thrust a stick in the spokes of the cycle of violence?

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Oppression, injustice, suffering, violence are everywhere. So are rays of hope that these plagues may be alleviated, even some day brought to an end. Among those who have been in the forefront of nourishing these hopes throughout our sad world, are the Mennonites. In my own much too limited experience in trying to confront these tragedies, I have repeatedly found that Mennonite activists and missions are there on the ground, living and working in solidarity with the victims, supporting and protecting them, showing by their own lives and activism the power of nonviolence, empathy, dedication, moral integrity. Their work is an inspiring demonstration of what we can achieve if we can find the strength and the courage to commit ourselves to the kinds of efforts that the Mennonites have shown to us in such an exemplary way. Andrew Klager's fine collection on the Mennonite way of proceeding 'from suffering to solidarity' provides a most enlightening and instructive guide to these impressive contributions, and what we can learn from them."

--Noam Chomsky, Institute Professor & Professor of Linguistics (Emeritus)

Linguistic Theory, Syntax, Semantics, Philosophy of Language, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

"This unique, compelling, and richly textured volume derives its vitality from a powerful question: How has the Mennonite historical context shaped contemporary Mennonite peace work? Together, Klager and his varied team of contributors trace the arc of the Mennonite story from shared suffering to empathetic solidarity with others, and offer inspiring examples of how a particular experience of oppression and violence can be transformed through conviction, love of enemies, a spirited work ethic, and moral as well as narrative imagination. The result is a nuanced appreciation of Mennonite peacebuilding at its best, and in its many different forms. Highly recommended."

--Nathan Funk, Associate Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo

"While Mennonites--one of the historic peace churches--have wrestled with processing painful collective memories, they are on a journey of pursuing peace with justice as they engage those suffering around them. *From Suffering to Solidarity* traces many steps and stories of peacemaking in this tradition. The interdisciplinary collection of articles is written by a diverse group of North American Mennonite scholars, reflecting experiences and strategies from different contexts globally. Practitioners, laity, students and specialists in peace-theology and -ethics will find inspiring gems of just peacemaking efforts throughout this collection. The repeated hearkening back to historic origins and development provides a critical resource, not only for Mennonite self-reflection and identity formation today. It is a most welcome contribution to the ongoing ecumenical 'Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace' of the World Council of Churches, a gift from the tradition of peace churches."

--Fernando Enns, Professor of Peace Theology and Ethics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and Director of the Institute of Peace Church Theology, University of Hamburg --Wipf and Stock Publishers

#### About the Author

Andrew P. Klager is on faculty at the Centre for Mennonite Studies, University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford, British Columbia, and is an adjunct professor at the Anabaptist-Mennonite Centre for Faith and Learning, Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia. He holds a PhD in Religious Studies from the University of Glasgow, focusing on sixteenth-century Anabaptist history, and is the author of several articles and book chapters on Anabaptist origins, history of Christianity, Mennonites and peace and conflict studies, and interreligious peacebuilding between Muslims and Christians.

## **Users Review**

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#### **Jeremiah Burroughs:**

Do you one of people who can't read enjoyable if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this particular aren't like that. This From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding book is readable simply by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the data here are arrange for enjoyable reading through experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer associated with From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding content conveys thinking easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the information but it just different available as it. So , do you nonetheless thinking From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding is not loveable to be your top checklist reading book?

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Information is provisions for people to get better life, information these days can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even a problem. What people must be consider any time those information which is inside former life are challenging be find than now's taking seriously which one works to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you obtain it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding as your daily resource information.

#### **Donna Graham:**

This book untitled From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retailer or you can order it by using online. The publisher in this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, because you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this book from your list.

#### **Alice Olivares:**

Typically the book From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding will bring someone to the new experience of reading any book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to read, this book very suitable to you. The book From Suffering to Solidarity: The Historical Seeds of Mennonite Interreligious, Interethnic, and International Peacebuilding is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

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