



SEEDS of PEACE

Empowering Leaders of the Next Generation

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What is Seeds of Peace?

~Seeds of Peace is an organization dedicated to empowering young people from regions of conflict with the leadership skills required to advance *reconciliation* and *coexistence*.

~Every year, roughly 350 young leaders (ages ranging from 14-17) from Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Israel, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine, and the U.S. meet their historic enemies face-to-face at the Seeds of Peace International Camp based in Otisfield, Maine.

Seeds of Peace History:

~Founded by journalist John Wallach.

~46 Middle Eastern teenagers present at Oslo Accords → Series of agreements concluded between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington D.C.

~Now there are over 4,000 young leaders from Middle East, South Asia, the Balkans, and the U.S.

What do campers do at camp?

~Campers, known as 'Seeds', engage in various activities while they spend 3 weeks at camp including:

~Dialogue- For 90-minutes each day, Seeds discuss the most painful and divisive issues of their conflict in professionally facilitated dialogue sessions.

~Camp Activities- Sports, Arts, Group Challenge- all reinforce trust, team spirit, cooperation, and communication, forging stronger bonds between dialogue group members.

~Color Games- The culminating event as Camp is divided into 2 multi-national teams. Encourages cooperative spirit that rises above ethnic and national divides.

How can you bring S.O.P to your school?

~Your school can contribute to SOP and spread the organization's mission in many ways.

~Stimulate dialogue (similar to the dialogue sessions at the SOP camp) with students in your school.

~Within these dialogue sessions, you can ask if SOP were in the state/district/city who would the delegations (different groups) be? Is there a historical wrong affecting the community? You can have dialogue based on the answers given by participants in these dialogue groups.

~Show Seeds of Peace movie and have a dialogue about the movie. (If you are interested in this, please email kmunem07@aol.com for more information.)

~Build a curriculum for your school for a day called “Seeds of Peace Day” and have each class present a lesson about something involving the Middle Eastern or South Asian conflicts (**History**- history of conflict, **Math**- Where do numbers come from? Arab mathematicians, **Gym**- traditional Jewish, Palestinian/Arab, South Asian dances)

~Penny Wars *Revenge (Sequel to Penny Wars)*- Another battle against the grades to raise the most pennies. Proceeds can be donated to SOP to help sponsor a camper or dialogue session and a portion of the raised money can also go to the winning grade of Penny Wars)

If anyone has any questions or wishes to know more about Seeds of Peace, please do not hesitate to email me at kmunem07@aol.com or you can also visit www.seedsofpeace.org