

# U. S. Social Changes

Examples of changes from which we benefit today. Some are ongoing.  
Grassroots groups began the work, faced opposition, and were primarily nonviolent.

## **PEACE**

Abolish War-Iraq/Afghanistan, Vietnam  
Anti-Torture  
Child Soldier Campaign  
Christian Peace Witness  
Close Foreign Bases  
Conscientious Objector Status  
Counter Recruitment  
Dept of Peace movement  
End the Draft  
FREEZE Nuclear Weapons  
GI Rights Hotline  
Guantanamo Closure  
Gun Control  
Land Mine, Cluster Bomb Campaigns  
Military Families Speak Out  
Peace Tax Fund  
School of Americas Watch  
START Treaty  
Veterans for Peace  
War Tax Resistance

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

Abolition of Slavery  
End of Lynching  
Freedom Riders  
Hate Crimes Laws  
Klan Watch/So.PovertyLawCtr  
Nondiscrimination - housing, buses,  
restaurants, hiring, etc  
School Desegregation  
Truth & Reconciliation Commission  
Voting Rights

## **CHILDREN**

Child Abuse Prevention laws, training  
Child Support Payments  
**CHIP** (Children's Health Insurance)  
Coalition Against Militarism in Schools  
Conflict Resolution & Anti-Bullying Ed  
Foster Care  
MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)  
Mainstreaming  
No War Toys  
Scouting – Boys and Girls  
Sex Offender Registry  
Teen Suicide Prevention

## **INDIGENOUS RIGHTS**

AIM (American Indian Movement)  
Native American Autonomy

## **LABOR**

Abolition of Short-Handled Hoe  
Child Labor Laws  
Fair Trade Products  
Leave (Vacation, Family, Sick )  
Living Wage  
Minimum Wage  
Overtime pay  
Right to Unionize, Strike  
Safety Standards - OSHA  
Sweatshops – No Sale on Campuses  
Taco Bell Boycott-Immokalee  
TomatoPickers  
United Farm Workers – lettuce & grape  
boycotts, right to shelters/toilets, etc.  
Work Day: 8 Hours, Rest, Mealtimes  
Work Week = 40 hours

## **WOMEN & MEN**

Domestic Violence- protection/support  
Equal Pay for Women  
Men's Support Groups / Iron John, etc  
Ordination of Women  
Planned Parenthood  
Reproductive Choice/ NARAL/  
Suffrage (Women's Right to Vote)  
Title 9 (Women's Sports)  
Women's Right to Credit

## **ELDERS**

Departments of Aging & Protection  
Grey Panthers  
Medicare  
Social Security

## **PEOPLE w/ DISABILITIES**

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act  
(physical accommodation,  
nondiscrimination, etc.)  
Deaf Culture recognition  
Protection of the Mentally Ill  
Special Education Classes

## **IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS**

Bi-lingual Education  
Bilingual Gov't Services  
Day Worker Centers  
Right to School, Health Care, etc  
Sanctuary Movement

## **GAY RIGHTS**

Adoption  
Anti-discrimination laws  
Civil Unions/Marriage  
Decriminalization  
End Don't Ask, Don't Tell  
Gay-Straight Alliance in schools  
Hate Crimes Laws  
Ordination to Ministry

## **ANIMAL RIGHTS**

Animal Protection (humane society, SPCA, cruelty laws, adoption services, save the whales & seals, etc.)  
Cage Free / Free Range  
Endangered Species Act  
No fur campaigns  
PETA

## **HEALTH**

12 Step Programs – AA, NA, etc  
AIDS (non-discrimination, services, etc)  
CHIP (Children's Health Insurance)  
Driving laws: seat belts, helmets, cell phones, car seats, etc.  
Free Clinics  
Health Care Reform / Single Payer  
Junk Food in Schools  
Medicaid & Medicare  
Medical Marijuana  
No Smoking Zones  
Patients' Rights Laws  
Reduce Toxins: DDT, Asbestos, Radon, Lead, Emissions, Nuclear Waste, etc.  
School Lunch Programs

## **ANTI-POVERTY**

Food Banks / Soup Kitchens  
Food Stamps  
Habitat for Humanity  
Katrina Relief  
Micro Loans  
Social Security  
Title 1 Education

## **FOOD**

Community Gardens  
CSAs - Community-Supported Agriculture  
Local Food  
Organics  
Vegetarian/Vegan Options

## **COMMON GOOD**

Block Watch  
Buy Local  
Campaign Finance Reform  
Consumer Protection Agencies  
Labeling Contents  
Local Currency  
Millennium Development Goals  
MoveOn.Org  
Nader's Raiders  
Poll Watching / Clean Elections  
Public Parks, Education, Libraries  
Service Learning – colleges

## **CRIME / PUNISHMENT**

Amnesty International  
Death Penalty  
Felons' Voting Rights  
Miranda Warning  
Prison Reform  
Restorative Justice  
Right to an Attorney

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Alternative/Green/Renewable Energy  
Clean Air / Clean Water Acts  
Climate Change  
Emission standards  
Endangered Species Act  
Environmental Defense Fund  
EPA  
Lead Paint Removal  
LEED - green building  
Mountaintop Removal  
Pollution Standards  
Rainforest Action Network  
Recycling  
Save Old Growth Forests  
Super Fund Sites

## **CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY**

Divestment Strategies  
Socially Responsible Investing  
Boycotts (Coke, Taco Bell, Walmart, etc)



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A list compiled by Janet Chisholm, Oct 2010  
Based on brainstorming sessions during  
training in *Creating a Culture of Peace*<sup>TM</sup>