

# What's an American to do?

## A conversation about peacekeeping.

Facilitated by members of the Palo Alto Friends Meeting (Quakers).

**Sunday, November 2, 2014**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**  
**957 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto**  
**650-856-0774 <www.pafm.org>**



**Our nation seems to be committed to another war in Iraq, in the air if not (yet) on the ground.**

**At the same time, we remain militarily engaged in Afghanistan, while we send armed drones into Pakistan and other countries of the Middle East.**

**What convinces our leaders that these actions will result in a just and lasting peace?**

**What alternatives to military action exist, and why is it so difficult to employ them effectively?**

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These issues of national policy are important to every American, yet we seldom if ever talk with each other about them. You are invited to meet with your fellow citizens who – like yourself – are concerned about the United States' reliance on military force and worried about the future if the escalation of violence cannot be stopped. We recognize these are world-wide problems; the United States is not solely to blame. But we are Americans, and if we have any hope of turning the world away from everlasting war, it is because we have hope that the United States of America can lead this turning.

The evening of discussion is planned to begin with short prepared statements from a variety of points of view about the current status and history of American involvement in the Middle East. If you want to present such a statement, please contact the organizers to be placed on the agenda.

The major part of the evening will be a conversation in the form of “Quaker dialogue,” in which everyone present is given an opportunity to speak. In “Quaker dialogue” one speaks from the heart, without argument or trying to address points made by others who have already spoken. All voices are respectfully listened to by all present. The goal is not to take a poll or arrive at a conclusion, but for everyone to gain a sense of where our local community stands on the issue at hand.

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Co-sponsored by Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice <www.multifaithpeace.org>

