Jane Addams’s Peaceweaving: A Feminist Response to Paternalism, Militarism, and World War I

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1. Who is Jane Addams
2. My Story
3. Paternalism
4. Militarism
5. WWI -- Woman’s Peace Movement
6. Peaceweaving
Jane Addams’s Funeral
Steps of Hull House

1860 - 1935
Nobel Peace Prize
1931

Founder
Rockford Female Seminary

- Valedictorian
- Editor Newspaper
- President Debate Club
- President of Class
Leader Settlement Movement

1880s – 1920s

Problems of Industrialization & Urbanization

Poverty
Health – Sanitation
Health – Industrial accidents

Education

Inspired by trip to England’s Toynbee Hall

Top Down model of reform
Ideas emerged from this experience.

Immigrant Community Lab – conflict resolution

Bottoms up model of reform

Hull House – Settlement Workers gathering 1920
Hull House Activities

drama classes,
day care programs,
coffee house/theater,
art and labor museum,
Sunday concerts,
choir,
over 25 clubs,
meeting rooms for organized labor,
cooperative apartments for young women
College Extension courses
Voter Registration
Speaker series....... 

first in Chicago to establish a public
bath,
gymnasium,
kitchen,
playground,
swimming pool.
• Child labor laws
• Playgrounds
• Juvenile Courts
• NAACP founder

• Street Cleaning/garbage collection
• Water/Sewer
• Healthier workplace

Active social reform
Hull House

Ideas emerged from
This feminine experience

Immigrant Community
Labor/management disputes
Lab – conflict resolution

Democracy
Philosophers (Friends/Associates)

John Dewey
George Herbert Mead
William James
W. E. B. Du Bois

Feminine Standpoint

Co-founded NAACP
Noted Speaker - Author

Jane Addams

My Friend, Julia Lathrop

HULL-HOUSE MAPS AND PAPERS
by the RESIDENTS OF HULL-HOUSE

A New Conscience and an Ancient Evil

Jane Addams

The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets

Jane Addams

The Excellent Remedy: The Permanent

Jane Addams

The Long Road of Woman’s Memory

Jane Addams

Forty Years at Hull-House

Women at the Hague

Newer Ideals of Peace

Jane Addams

Emily & Balch

Alice Hamilton

Peace and Bread in Time of War

1907
She nominated Roosevelt for the Progressive party presidential candidate.

Wilson nominated her for Nobel prize

She and Hover worked on post WWI humanitarian efforts
1915 Women’s Peace Conference  The Hague
Speech Carnegie Hall
Jane Addams Public Timeline

1889
Celebrated

1915
Demeaned
Traitor
Communist
Silly old woman

1935
DOJ Surveillance
Lost Historical Memory
Warrior

Peacekeeper

Shields & Soeters, 2013
Nobel Peace Prize
1931

What was her idea
Of Peace?

Could it be applied
To Peacekeeping?
Paternalism

Duty
Moral Absolutism
King Lear

“Modern Lear”

Pullman Strike
Social Claim
Militarism

Valued Soldiers
De-valued Women & Children
City as Citadel

Criticized outmoded model of city governance

Municipal Housekeeping

Argued in favor of a more caring model of city government
Civic Housekeeping

1907

“Survival of Militarism in City Government” (chapter 1)

“Failure to Utilize Immigrants in City Government

“Utilization of Women in City Government”
Heroism of War

- Valor on Battlefield
- Courage
- Sacrifice for Country

Newer Ideals of Peace

Problem – supporting peace feeble and inadequate goody-goody

Needed a more aggressive – stir the blood Notion of peace.

New Humanitarianism

Valor in serving the needy
Peace - Courage
Peace Movement (1890s – WWI)

Establish International Law and Order
Peace good for Business

Peace Organizations (Elite)
Social conservative
National political figures
Important Businessmen

Presidents (Taft, Wilson)
Secretaries of State (5)
Andrew Carnegie
1899 Hague Peace Conference
(1907)

Legal Framework for Peaceful settlement of disputes
Maternal Instinct

- Women have an instinctive and rational opposition to war
- Women & Children suffer but not at table
- Need increase participation of women in politics.
- Linked to Suffrage

Woman’s Peace Party established – Jane Addams Leader

Aug. 1914
PRESIDENT WILSON SAYS:
"This is the time to support Woman Suffrage."
Carrie Chapman Catt
Preserving the Social Fabric

- Led by Social Workers
- Threat of war to domestic social programs
- Importance of conservation of society
- SW expertise at Social Relations
  - expanded to International Relations

Lillian Wald & Jane Addams

Henry Street Settlement
International Peace Congress of Women at the Hague
April 1915
Social Claim

International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace

April 1915
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

- Begin peace negotiations immediately
- Conference Neutral Nations
- Continuous Mediation
- Future disputes – arbitration
- Organization “Society of Nations”
- Acknowledge women’s suffering during war
- Give women right to vote
- Women participation in Peace Processes
Peace Delegation

Women at The Hague

Jane Addams
Emily G. Balch
Alice Hamilton

with an introduction by Mary Jo Deegan

Classics in Women's Studies
During WWI

Suffrage movement – support the war
US Food Administration

Addams traveled
Including Texas

American Relief Administration

4 million tons of supplies
23 countries

Herbert Hoover
International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace

Becomes Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom
Addams – Peaceweaving
“Peace Research: Just the Study of War”*

Negative Definition of Peace

Problems with Negative Definition

1. Shifts focus of inquiry from peace to violence.
2. Focuses on a short run end state.
3. Divorced from the dynamics of relationships.
4. Shifts attention away from underlying dynamics or causes of violence.
Positive Peace

• Nonviolent and creative conflict transformation.
• Uneven long run focus.
• The fabric of the kind of society to which we aspire.
• Integrity, wholeness and well-being that arise from justice.
• Humanity toward others.
• Openness to a widely conceived social claim
1. Relationships
2. Avoid Rigid Moralisms

Friend/enemy

good/evil

Courage
3. Sympathetic Understanding

How build relationship
4. Community of Inquiry

1. Practical Problems
2. Scientific Attitude
3. Participatory Democracy
5. Lateral Progress

Duty toward the less fortunate – Social claim
PeaceWeaving

– building the fabric of peace by emphasizing relationships. These positive relationships are built by working on practical problems, engaging people widely with sympathetic understanding while recognizing that progress is measure by the welfare of the vulnerable.

(Shields & Soeters, 2015)