Handout One – NV Characteristics

NONVIOLENT CAMPAIGNING CHARACTERISTICS

• Respect for the opponent/everyone involved as fellow human beings
• Care for everyone involved
• Refusal to harm, damage or degrade people/living things/the earth
• If suffering is inevitable, willingness to take it on yourself rather than inflict it on others; not retaliating to violence with violence
• Belief that everyone is capable of change
• Appeal to the opponents’ humanity
• Recognition that no one has a monopoly of truth, so aims to bring together our ‘truth’ and the opponents’ ‘truth’
• A belief that the means are the ends in the making, so the means have to be consistent with the ends
• Openness rather than secrecy

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