



Canadian Friends Service Committee

E-Newsletter

REDUCING RECIDIVISM

Shifting the Paradigm to Invest in Community

NAACJ • ANIJC



Social responsibility
Responsabilité sociale



Criminal justice paper calls for investing in communities to reduce reoffending

A new discussion paper [Reducing Recidivism: Shifting the Paradigm to Invest in Community](#) (PDF) was released by the National Associations Active in Criminal Justice. (CFSC is an active member and participated alongside other members in the work to draft this paper.)

The paper highlights that recidivism (committing a crime again after having being previously found guilty of a crime) happens in communities. It goes on to suggest many ways to reduce recidivism through changing where investments are made.

Among others, the paper has been shared with the Minister of Public Safety Canada and the Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Canada. It was produced to support the development of a meaningful and comprehensive Canadian framework that will reduce crime and the [harms crime causes to individuals and communities](#) (PDF). The paper includes statements about one of CFSC's current priorities—[children of incarcerated parents](#)—and also about the value of lived experience.

CFSC also submitted a [note to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child](#) to highlight the situation of children with parents who are incarcerated.

Advice and Queries: Discerning Peace and Social Concerns

Tasmin Rajotte and Matthew Legge,
Canadian Friends Service Committee

Discerning peace and social concerns

Several Quaker Meetings have come to us to express challenges in their work on peace and social concerns. They've said, in effect: "We're exhausted. We see so many problems in the world and we try to take action on too many of them. In the end, we're left feeling frazzled and spread too thin. How does Canadian Friends Service Committee navigate this challenge? How can we decide what causes to take up?"

In response to these questions and requests for help, CFSC has written [a new pamphlet](#) (PDF). Aimed at Quaker Meetings, the pamphlet explores what discernment is, what a leading is, and how to use Quaker decision-making processes to select what peace and social justice work to take on. The pamphlet offers many queries that may be helpful for Meetings in this process. It concludes by sharing several tools for planning and communicating about peace and social concerns. This

pamphlet was published by the [Canadian Yearly Meeting](#) as part of their *Canadian Quaker Learning Series*.



Because their government failed to sign the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, individual Canadians got together in many parts of the country and did so themselves. This photo is from Toronto, 2017.



Canadians call on NATO to reduce nuclear risks

Canada is collaborating with other countries to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We now also need collaboration to sharply reduce the greater threat we face from the risk of use of nuclear weapons.

Canada, as a member of NATO, relies on threats to use nuclear weapons to discourage actions by other states. This is a very dangerous strategy. In past decades, there have been more than 1,000 instances where these weapons have nearly been launched or exploded due to human error, communications issues, and technical faults.

In June 2022, NATO will conclude a review of its principal “Strategic Concept” policy. Backed by strong science-based information, we urge the Canadian Government to lessen the risk of nuclear weapon use, and emphasize diplomacy in resolving conflicts.... [Keep reading this joint open letter](#).