



# Pacifism: A Philosophy of Nonviolence

*By Robert L. Holmes*

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## **Pacifism: A Philosophy of Nonviolence** By Robert L. Holmes

In a world riven with conflict, violence and war, this book proposes a philosophical defense of pacifism. It argues that there is a moral presumption against war and unless that presumption is defeated, war is unjustified. Leading philosopher of non-violence Robert Holmes contends that neither just war theory nor the rationales for recent wars (Vietnam, the Gulf War, the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars) defeat that presumption, hence that war in the modern world is morally unjustified.

A detailed, comprehensive and elegantly argued text which guides both students and scholars through the main debates (Just War Theory and double effect to name a few) clearly but without oversimplifying the complexities of the issues or historical examples.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

“Robert L. Holmes has been one of those who never lost sight of war's importance and the urgency of crafting alternatives ... His new book will be a reference point for all further discussions of the topic.” -*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

### **About the Author**

**Robert L. Holmes** is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Rochester, USA. His main research is in philosophy of war, the ethics of nonviolence, and contemporary moral problems. He is the author of *Basic Moral Philosophy* (2006) and *On War and Morality* (1989), co-author of *Philosophical Inquiry* (1968), and co-editor of *Nonviolence in Theory and Practice* (1990). He has published over 75 scholarly papers.

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