

PREFACE

Though Petra Karin Kelly, nonviolence speaks to power. This selection of five speeches and four essays covering the period from August 1987 to July 1991 provides insights into the nature and scope of her concerns. It also contains lessons of nonviolent political leadership she has learned as a cofounder of the German Green Party (1979), as a candidate heading the Green list in four national elections (1979, 1980, 1982, and 1987), and as a two-term member of the parliamentary Green Bundestag (1983-90).

The Center for Global Nonviolence Planning Project is pleased to present this book, which will be of worldwide interest to all who study and practice nonviolence. This includes peace workers, ecologists, feminists, human rights advocates, workers for economic justice, health workers, and all who engage in and support direct nonviolent political action. We think that nonviolent political leaders now and in the twenty-first century can benefit much from her vision, analysis, and experience. The seeds of a practical nonviolent global political theory are undeniably present here.

In presenting her speeches, we have tried to preserve a sense of being there. They were meant to be spoken and heard, not read. Some parts, before different audiences, are repetitive, but reoccurrence aids understanding of the consistency and comprehensiveness of her thought. We have not tried to provide precise citations of the sources of ideas and information to which she refers. They represent the style of the political speaker rather than that of the reference scholar, who may, however, trace them to their origins if needed. First names of persons mentioned may be found in the index. We have maintained many abbreviations

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in the text, but have added an explanatory list of them, especially for the benefit of readers in the future.

We are grateful to Petra Kelly for permitting us to publish this book in support of the idea of building a global institution dedicated to nonviolent research, education, and service to human needs. Her visits to Hawai'i with Gert Bastian in 1988 and 1991 happily nurtured the spirit of nonviolence in these islands. We also thank Stanley Schab, publications specialist of the Matsunaga Institute for Peace, for his indispensable technical support.

The Editors
Honolulu, Hawai'i
July 1, 1992