

Toward a Theory of Peace

The Role of Moral Beliefs

RANDALL CAROLINE WATSON FORSBERG

INTRODUCTION BY MATTHEW EVANGELISTA AND
NETA C. CRAWFORD

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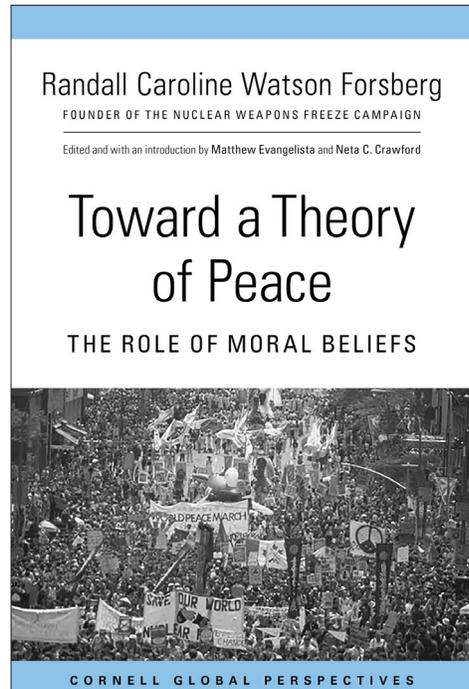
Military analyst, peace activist, teacher, and social theorist Randall Caroline Watson Forsberg (1943–2007) founded the Nuclear Freeze campaign and the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies. In *Toward a Theory of Peace*, completed in 1997 and published for the first time here, she delves into a vast literature in psychology, anthropology, archeology, sociology, and history to examine the ways in which changing moral beliefs came to stigmatize forms of “socially sanctioned violence” such as human sacrifice, cannibalism, and slavery, eventually rendering them unacceptable. Could the same process work for war?

An introduction by political scientists Matthew Evangelista and Neta C. Crawford, both of whom worked with Forsberg, puts this important and timely study into context. Starting with an overview of Forsberg’s life and career, it highlights the links between scholarship and activism that characterized her work. Her work against nuclear weapons and foreign intervention represents the kind of long-term social movement that she theorizes in this book as the path to a world free of war.

RANDALL CAROLINE WATSON FORSBERG (PH.D. M.I.T. 1980) found-ed of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign and the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies. In 1983, she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation “genius grant” and, in 2005, she became Spitzer Professorship in Political Science at the City College of New York. Forsberg died in 2007.

Matthew Evangelista is President White Professor of History and Political Science at Cornell University. He is the author of several books, including *Unarmed Forces*, also from Cornell, and *Gender, Nationalism, and War*.

Neta C. Crawford is Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Political Science at Boston University.



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