

Love the Ones You're With

Well my dear readers, here we are again. It's now June and I have been away from my little home in L.A for 12 months now, but I am on the home stretch. I am currently 80 miles from Nashville with 2,346 miles under my feet and 700 to go. I will arrive happily in Washington D.C. on August 1st, all going well. Right now the only complaint I have is some blisters I have acquired from the burning Tennessee asphalt. Blisters are nature's way of saying, "Slow down Paddy and don't forget to smell the roses."

Tennessee is a very interesting place and its people even more so. I have been well received here. They apparently don't get many Irish Peace Walkers. Tennessee people are like its landscape, simple yet rugged. I have interviewed many Tennesseans about peace and the current war in Iraq. A high percentage of them want the soldiers there to protect America's freedom. I am learning through this walk that if we as humans are to have any sense of freedom, it will and must come from the inside. There is no army, no matter how powerfully trained they are or how many bombs they may possess, that will ever give us freedom or anything close to it.

The freedom or peace we desire will only come from within. It's hard for a lot of people that I have spoken with to hear this, yet I believe it to be true. The peace we seek resides within and there are as many ways to connect to it, as there are people. It's true the only way OUT is IN. I speak to people about peace however I wonder how peaceful I really am. There have been many challenges on this little walkabout of mine and sometimes I have been able to remain peaceful and other times I have screamed my head off in total frustration. Practice does make progress and that's what I'm after, progress not perfection. I'm not out to change the World but I can sow some seeds of inspiration while I'm here.

On a personal note I do miss all my friends in L.A and seeing members of my family in D.C have reminded me of how much I have to be grateful for in my life. It's such a treasure to have people around us that truly care about our well-being and who are willing to support our hopes and dreams. Please remember to tell your family and friends every now and then how much their friendship and love means to you. There have been so many people that have helped me during this walk and continue to do so that I feel so blessed to have them in my life. It's amazing what we can push through when we have a little outside support to help us through the tough times.

So all that being said, my dear friends and family I just want to say thank you so much for everything that you do and for all the encouraging words of wisdom I have received from you all. We never truly know how our words affect others, so it's a good practice to keep them positive and uplifting. More than ever the people of this Planet need us to act, think, and speak in ways that are truthful and inspiring or as Gandhi once said, "Be the change you wish to see in the World".

GPW Daily Diary

Would you like to know what we get up to on the road?

Go to website for a link to my Daily Diaries and then click on My Blog :)

GANDHI T-SHIRTS

Dear friends we are now selling t-shirts to help with gas and food costs. If you would like to support the walk by buying one, please e-mail me at dermotmb@yahoo.com or if you would like to sell five t-shirts in support to some of your friends, we will give you one free for yourself. T-Shirts are 20 dollars. More info will be available on our website in a few days :)

SUPPORT OUR PEACE WALK

The walk is primarily being run on kind donations which are gratefully received at www.gandhipacewalk.org or if you would like to make a tax deduction for your donation please mail a check made out to earthways/gandhipacewalk at 20178 rockport way, Malibu CA 90265. The Gandhi Peacewalk is a project of Earthways a non-profit 501(C3) organisation.

Please FORWARD this newsletter to anyone you think would enjoy reading it.

Peace and Truth,
Dermot Butterly, aka Gandhi Rollingstone :)