

Acknowledgments

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Preface to the 2013 Reissue

Preparing a second edition of *Confronting Injustice and Oppression* nearly fifteen years after its original publication offers an opportunity to review its assumptions, perspectives, and conclusions and to note some relevant, unexpected developments during the intervening years.

The book suggested that exploitation and social injustice were established coercively, some ten thousand years ago, following the spread of agriculture. Since then, exploitation and injustice have evolved into nearly universal existential realities, maintained by political, ideological, and physical oppression and by validation in the consciousness of their agents and beneficiaries, as well as of their victims.

The book also suggested that transcending the realities of exploitation, injustice, and oppression and transforming them into just and cooperative ways of life would require extended efforts by nonviolent liberation movements aiming to facilitate revisions of consciousness conducive to a social justice culture. For governments, unless challenged by social movements, tend to sustain established social, economic, political, and ideological realities, regardless of their unjust consequences.