

TOYS OF VIOLENCE FOR OUR CHILDREN . . .

VIOLENCE is abroad in our land--
Dogs are turned on humans...
Murder is with us in the headlines and T. V....
Homes are bombed in the North...
Children in church are killed in the South...
We rely on the weapons of annihilation
 to secure our "way of life"--
Violence is so commonplace in our lives
 that we hardly notice it...

Until finally, our young and vital President
is killed by an assassin's bullet
Setting off a chain of even more violence.

And we are ashamed.

Let us begin to question the violence of our lives--
Let us bring love and understanding
 to our families--
Let us begin with our children--
Ought we supply them with the toys
 that make violence
 so commonplace--
 so accepted--
The gun, the tank, the rocket,
 rather than tools, paints,
 or the books of other lands?

If we buy only creative toys this Christmas,
 it can be a beginning--
 a symbol
 of our rejection of violence...

In memorium to our late President--
In keeping with Christmas
 as a time of peace and of love--
Let us begin by this small act...

If each of us does not do this--who will?
If not now--when?

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