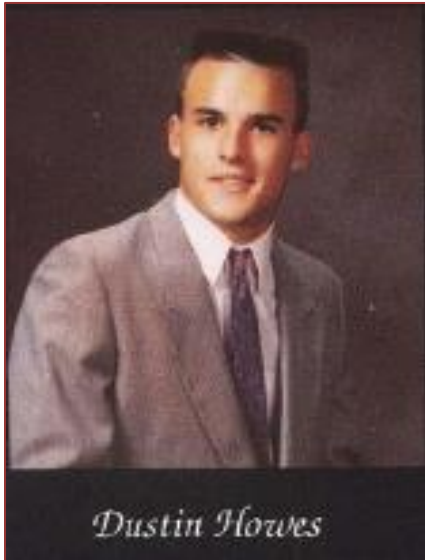


## Dustin Ells Howes (Okemos High Class of '91)

Dustin Ells Howes was born October 17, 1973, in Detroit, Michigan, to Janet L. Howes and the late Robert W. Howes. Dustin attended the Waldorf School in Indian Village, Detroit, which sparked his creativity and love of thinking, reading, and writing. After his father's death, he and his mother moved to East Lansing where he attended Okemos Schools.



## Senior Photo & “Most Opinionated” (1991 OHS *Tomahawk*)

In high school Dustin enjoyed participating in theater and music, was a member of the Someko Singers, and initiated the Martin Luther King Day Assembly at Okemos High School. Upon graduation in 1991, he delivered one of the commencement speeches. From 1987 to 1988, Dustin and his mother hosted a Youth for Understanding exchange student from Hamburg, Germany. The families have remained friends through the years.

# Voices of O.H.S.

<b><i>SOMEKO</i></b>	Tracey Luce Meghan McCarthy Michele Meagher Chris Mitchell Jennifer Moore Kim Neuenswander Scott Oranchak Jeff Ott Maggi Rohde Tami Staser Royce Tevis	<b><i>CHOIR</i></b>	Paula Bozung Beth Burch Hillary Burgess Bill Celio Bob Cheetham Sarah Clay Dana Duffey Travis Eldridge Julie Finn Stephanie Fitro Nancy Forester Bryan Fomey	Any Fowler Cara Garvale Dan Grady Ron Haller Hee Sun Han Lorelei Hatfield Molly Hess Eoi-Kyung Hwang Tameca Jackson Kaia Kocher Sarah Lingoos Jennifer Lorentzen Noelle Lothamer Cherilyn Lundell	Drew Mann Tom Marshall Chris Massey Kara McGillicuddy Dadrina Mitchell Julia Moore Jeff Ott Cheryl Rasmussen Dustin Repaskoy Abby Ruppert Shawn Sell Paul Senger Faye Shepler Cathy Smith	Robin Sommers Jason Styka Enille Sumirah Tonya Swartzendruber Kim Thngih Brooke Tipton Tricia Tyre Kris Vitols Joie Zachary
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## Dustin Howes – Member of the Someko Singers (1991 OHS *Tomahawk*)



Government officers: Craig Brooks, Robin Wall, David Glickman, Bob Ralls, Dustin Howes, Sarah Schleif, Ritu Dhaliwal, and Julie Hall.

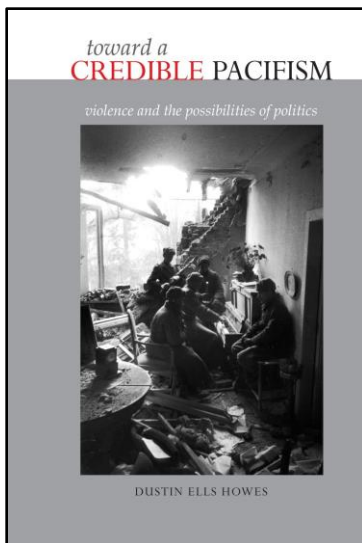
### **1991 OHS Tomahawk**

Dustin loved attending annually the Unitarian-Universalist Spring Conference at The United Nations, inspiring his sense of oneness with the peoples of the world. He had the privilege of traveling the world from an early age and he continued his curiosity and interest in different cultures and views throughout his life.

Dustin attended Wayne State University before graduating from The [University of Michigan](#) in 1995 with an A.B. in Political Science and Communications. He was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. While at Michigan he wrote hip-hop reviews for *The Michigan Daily* and expanded his appreciation for a wide variety of musical genres and artists that he enthusiastically shared with all.

Dustin went on to earn an A.M. in Social Sciences at The University of Chicago. He then went to The University of North Carolina where focused on non-violence and resistance theory as an effective political tool and earned a Ph.D. in Political Science (2005). The conscientious objector status of his father during the Vietnam War undoubtedly influenced his motivations. He particularly loved to teach and engage undergraduate students during his time at UNC where he was the recipient of the John Patrick Hagen Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student and the Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. He also was a member of the UNC Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars.

Dustin's academic career began at The State University of New York, Oswego, followed by St. Mary's College of Maryland. Dustin then obtained a tenure track position at [Louisiana State University](#). While at LSU, Dr. Howes authored countless articles and book chapters. Most notably, he authored *Toward a Credible Pacifism: Violence and the Possibilities of Politics* (SUNY University Press). Despite significant physical limitations, and with the help of family and friends he was also able to complete *Freedom Without Violence: Resisting The Western Political Tradition* (Oxford University Press, 2016), which is currently being translated into Arabic.



#### From the Back Cover

Advocates of pacifism usually stake their position on the moral superiority of nonviolence and have generally been reluctant or unwilling to concede that violence can be an effective means of conducting politics. In this compelling new work, which draws its examples from both everyday experience and the history of Western political thought, author Dustin Ells Howes presents a challenging argument that violence can be an effective and even just form of power in politics. Contrary to its proponents, however, Howes argues that violence is no more reliable than any other means of exercising power. Because of this there is almost always a more responsible alternative. He distinguishes between violent and nonviolent power and demonstrates how the latter can confront physical violence and counter its claims. This brand of pacifism gives up claims to moral superiority but recuperates a political ethic that encourages thoughtfulness about suffering and taking responsibility for our actions.

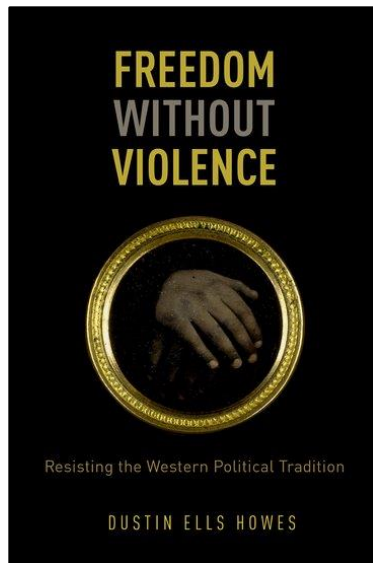
#### Reviews

“One need not be an avid reader of Gandhi or Martin Luther King or even a political theorist to recognize the value of a book that rethinks both the power and effectiveness of violence and nonviolence ... this volume goes a long way toward illuminating the political possibilities of a credible pacifism.” — Perspectives on Politics

“...sheds a bright light on the amount of power it takes to support and maintain violence ... Furthermore, this book advances the conversation between advocates of nonviolence and its detractors in important ways ... Toward a Credible Pacifism makes a convincing case for credibly reintroducing the study of nonviolence into the security studies and political theory agendas.” — Peace Review

“Dustin Ells Howes’ book is ... important and groundbreaking ... Howes has brilliantly achieved the promise of his subtitle. Against all expectations, he has stabilized the concept of human violence by establishing the causal link between its physical and intersubjective manifestations. Next, and perhaps more important, he has clarified the relationship between human ‘violence and the possibilities of politics’ by clarifying the relationship between human violence and sociopolitical power. It is a stunning achievement.” — Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace

“...those interested in the nature and purposes of violence in politics will find much to admire in this wide-ranging and subtle work ... [Howes’] treatment of freedom, power, and causes and responses to human suffering illustrate the complexities of violence in the contemporary world.” — CHOICE



### From the Back Cover

*Freedom Without Violence* explores the long history of political practice and thought that connects freedom to violence in the West, from Athenian democracy and the Roman republic to the Age of Revolutions and the rise of totalitarianism. It is the first comprehensive examination of the idea that violence is necessary to obtain, defend, and exercise freedom. The book also brings to the fore the opposing theme of nonviolent freedom, which can be found both within the Western tradition and among critics of that tradition.

Through a critique and reappraisal of the Western political tradition, *Freedom Without Violence* constructs a conception of nonviolent freedom. The book argues that cultivating and practicing this brand of freedom is the *sine qua non* of a vibrant democracy that resists authoritarianism, imperialism and oligarchy.

### Reviews

"This is an ambitious and challenging book...[It] covers a massive range of material, and it is clearly based on extensive research and thinking."

- *The Review of Politics*

"In a moment when war and violence are liberally defended as the means necessary to achieve or preserve freedom, Howes' *Freedom without Violence* offers a timely and trenchant critique of our easy acquiescence to this view of freedom's relationship to violence. The book moves across the history of Western political thought to examine the origins and transformations that led to such a decided convergence between violence and freedom. But the book's real achievement is to unearth from the fissures of this tradition alternative practices and notions of self-rule - of willing, ruling, and acting - that underwrite more durable forms of nonviolent freedom. With this work, Howes continues to bring the history and theory of nonviolence into conversation with mainstream political theory with admirable political and intellectual seriousness."

- Karuna Mantena, author of *Alibis of Empire*

"In this remarkable work of historical and theoretical scholarship, Dustin Howes critically explicates the often-overlooked relationship between freedom and violence in the Western tradition. He then examines and contributes to the attempts to develop a concept of freedom that goes along with nonviolence. It is indispensable for anyone interested in freedom, violence, and nonviolence in history or the present."

- James Tully, author of *Democracy and Civic Freedom* and *Imperialism and Civic Freedom*

"A major challenge facing humanity today is to find ways of defending freedom without resorting to the horrors of modern warfare. A sober analysis of the entire Western political tradition has led Howes to the conclusion that the yearning for nonviolent ways of maintaining freedom is steadily getting stronger. This is a book for our troubled times. Academics, journalists and policy makers will find its vision appealing and realistic."

- Anthony J. Parel, Professor Emeritus, University of Calgary

[Dr. Howes Web Page at LSU](#)



**Curriculum Vitae** - <https://lsu.edu/hss/polisci/files/item75263.pdf>

**Website** - [https://www.lsu.edu/faculty/dhowes1/Dustin\\_Ells\\_Howes/Home.html](https://www.lsu.edu/faculty/dhowes1/Dustin_Ells_Howes/Home.html)

**Area of Interest** - Dr. Dustin Howes teaching and research interests include ancient, modern and contemporary political thought. His current research focuses on the relationship between violence and politics.

**Awards & Honors** - Board of Regents ATLAS Grant (\$43,070.00) "Freedom and Violence." Fall 2011-Summer 2012; University of North Carolina Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Spring 2002; University of North Carolina Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, member, Spring 2002; University of North Carolina Department of Political Science John Patrick Hagen Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student, Spring 2001.

**Selected Publications**

Howes, Dustin Ellis. 2013. "The Failure of Pacifism and the Success of Nonviolence." *Perspectives on Politics* 11(2): 427-446.

Howes, Dustin. 2010. "Conservative Democratic Thought and the War on Terror." *Human Rights Review* 11:1.

Howes, Dustin. 2009. *Toward a Credible Pacifism: Violence and the Possibilities of Politics*. SUNY Press.

Howes, Dustin. 2008. "Consider if This Is a Person: Primo Levi, Hannah Arendt and the Political Significance of Auschwitz". *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 22 (2), 266-292.

**Teaching**

4090 Special Topics: Freedom

2060 Introduction to Political Theory

7991 Special Topics: Democratic Theory



In the fall of 2014, Dustin was awarded The David J. Kriskovich Distinguished Professor of Political Science.



As Dustin faced the challenges of ALS, he stayed strong and hopeful. He appreciated the kindness of healthcare professionals in Baton Rouge, LA; Danville, IL; and Syracuse, NY. He was fortunate to ultimately find caring, compassionate and knowledgeable care at The Leonard Florence Center for Living in Chelsea, Massachusetts. Their innovative use of technology fostered independence and communication allowing Dustin to move about the facility and grounds, remain connected professionally, and most importantly to stay in touch with his children. Through the use of eye-gaze technology, he created memoirs, poems, songs and bedtime stories for his two children (Madeline Rose and Henry Lloyd), as well as visiting them via video chats. He maintained contact with family and friends across the country and world. The Foundation helped sponsor and facilitate his last participation in a panel discussion on peace at Stanford University in June, 2016.



Dustin peacefully “slipped the surly bonds of earth” on Saturday, January 21, 2017, in Chelsea, Massachusetts.

Louisiana State University honored Dustin with the following “In Memorium”:

**In Memoriam: Dustin Howes**

Our friend and colleague Dustin Howes, holder of the David J. Kriskovich Distinguished Professorship succumbed to the ravages of ALS on Saturday evening, January 21, 2017, in Boston, Massachusetts. Dustin had been struggling valiantly with this brutal disease for some time. That struggle, however, had not altered his indomitable spirit or his passion for that which most inspired his scholarship, the politics of nonviolence. Indeed, in one short decade Dustin had amassed a considerable record of masterful writing and scholarship. He received his doctorate from the University of North Carolina in 2005, after having earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Michigan and the University of Chicago respectively. He taught at the State University of New York at Oswego and St. Mary's College of Maryland before joining the LSU faculty in 2008. His area of expertise was political theory, with a specialization in philosophies of pacifism and nonviolence. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses in the history of political thought, introduction to political thought, democratic theory, theories of freedom, and nonviolence in theory and practice, as well as a course in the Honors College on political humor. Dustin was an active member of the Association for Political Theory, as well as an occasional contributor to the website, “Waging Nonviolence.”

Dustin's first book, *Toward a Credible Pacifism: Violence and the Possibilities of Politics*, with SUNY Press, was hailed as a landmark study of the relationship between politics and violence. The reviewer for the *Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace* wrote: “Against all expectations, [Dr. Howes] has clarified the relationship between human ‘violence and the possibilities of politics’ by clarifying the relationship between human violence and sociopolitical power. It is a stunning achievement.” Indeed, that achievement was the subject of a Roundtable Discussion at the 2009 meeting of the Peace and Justice Studies Association and, because of it, Dustin was invited to be the plenary speaker for an international symposium on *The Politics and Aesthetics of Nonviolence* at the University of Verona in Italy, sponsored by the Finnish Centre for Conceptual Thought and Political Change. That book was accompanied by a remarkable array of journal articles in such prestigious publications as *Political Research Quarterly*, the *European Journal of Political Theory*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *symplekē*, and *Perspectives on Politics*. Dustin's final book, entitled *Freedom without Violence: Resisting the Western Political Tradition*, was completed while he was in the advanced stages of ALS and published last year (2016) by Oxford University Press. One reviewer says of it: “A sober analysis of the entire Western political tradition has led Howes to the conclusion that the yearning for nonviolent ways of maintaining freedom is steadily getting stronger. This is a book for our troubled times. Academics, journalists, and policy makers will find its vision appealing and realistic.”

University professors are contributors to and participants in the life of the mind. Ideas are paramount to our research and our teaching. At times, our overly abstract considerations have little immediacy for the everyday lives of human beings; at other times they have the potential for changing the world. Dr. Howes' contributions to the discourse on politics and nonviolent change have that potential, both for the rule of law and human rights in developing democracies, as well as in advanced industrial nations. Dustin loved that life of the mind, passionately so. In the latter days of his illness, speaking only with the aid of his eyes and a recording/typing device, he participated in numerous graduate examinations long distance through video/audio connections. His questions were always the most challenging and his demeanor always the most gentle. Faculty and students alike will miss his delightful thoughtfulness, his engaging smile and good humor, and his challenge to our conventional ways of thinking about politics. Born, in Detroit, Michigan, on October 17, 1973, Dustin is survived by his mother, Janet, brother, Brandon, former wife, Rachel, and six year old twins, Henry and Madeline. Those who wish to contribute to his memory have been asked by Dustin's family to consider the ALS Foundation.


Dustin was predeceased by his father, Robert W. Howes; his grandparents, Betty and Russell Howes, and Freda and Garland Ells; and uncles, Randall Stoddart and Russell Howes. He is survived to treasure his memory by his children, Madeline Rose and Henry Lloyd Howes, whom he adored; and the mother of his children, Dr. Rachel C. Hall. He is also survived by the children's grandparents, Charles (Kim) Hall, and Sharon (William) Houpt; the children's maternal aunt, Sara (Chris) Harpst; and maternal uncle, Dan Hall. Also to cherish his memory are his mother, Janet L. Howes; his brother, Brandon Howes (Erin McCrea); niece, Abby; his German brother, Jan (Suzanne) Krummrey (children, Anton and Paul); step-mother, Marilyn Kelly; uncle, Randall Howes (Colleen); cousins, Jason Howes (Shannon Fisher) and Cory Howes (Anna); aunts, Sue Vincent Howes and Joann Ells Stoddart; numerous relatives of the Halfacre, Dayringer and Howes extended families; and countless best friends.




The family is forever grateful that Dustin's last year was with our wonderful friends and family at The Leonard Florence Center for Living. Donations in Dustin's honor may be sent to Chelsea Jewish Foundation, 165 Captains Row, Chelsea, MA 02150. Or donations may be sent to your state ALS Chapter. Dustin also requested donations in his memory be sent to your local ACLU Chapter, or the Detroit Waldorf School, 2555 Burns, Detroit, MI 48214.

Memorial Services were held Saturday, March 4, 2017, at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, MI, at 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing, MI 48911. Phone 517-351-4081. Visitation began at 10:00 AM prior to the service at 11:00 AM. A buffet luncheon at the church followed for all of those in attendance.

Portions from or paraphrased from the original [obituary](#) published in the Lansing State Journal on Feb. 26, 2017.

**ACADEMIA**



**Dustin Howes**  
 2.5 |  Louisiana State University, Political Science, Faculty Member |  Political Theory +33  
<http://www.lsu.edu/faculty/dhowes1>  
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[Dustin Howes on Acedemia.edu](#)





**Dustin Howes** shared a link.



December 8, 2016 · Change.org ·



DUSTIN HOWES JUST SIGNED THIS PETITION ON CHANGE.O...

**Brainstorm: Pursue accelerated approval of NurOwn treatment for ALS patients - Sign the Petition!**

[Dustin Howes Facebook Page](#)