

About Stefan Pasti, Campaign Coordinator  
for Tipping Point Action: Citizen Participation in Times of Unprecedented Challenges  
(Some Biographical Notes)

Stefan Pasti has been actively involved in peacebuilding and community revitalization work for over 30 years— as a writer (in a variety of genres, including short novel and short story); an editor (newsletters, quotation collections); an advocate of ecologically sustainable communities; a practitioner of voluntary simplicity; and, since 2001, as founder and outreach coordinator for The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative.

Although Mr. Pasti has found spiritual inspiration from many sources and traditions, the most important influence in his life has been the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba (1926-2011)—which Mr. Pasti learned about in 1991. In 1997, he completed “An Arrangement of Quotations from ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ (Vol. 1-11, first U.S. editions)” (discourses by Sri Sathya Sai Baba from the years 1953-1982). In 2006, Mr. Pasti updated the source reference of every quotation in the collection, to make the source references coincide with the new large print editions of the “Sathya Sai Speaks” series. ([Updated version](#)).

Mr. Pasti found that the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba provided unprecedented insight into both the challenges of our times, and ways of moving towards cultural and spiritual cohesion. From 2001—2013, Mr. Pasti created documents and websites in an effort to build The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative in 2001 (now with a “homebase” at <http://cpcsc.info/the-ipcr-initiative/>). During this time, through the research needed to create outreach recipient lists, Mr. Pasti learned of many inspiring organizations and initiatives doing work in related fields of activity. Mr. Pasti attributes the inspiration for the approach and substance of his collaborative problem solving and citizen peacebuilding work, his personal capacity to see good in the efforts of people from many different faith communities and cultural traditions, and his personal faith in a positive outcome regarding the challenges of our times to close contact, over many years, with the wisdom and compassion in the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

Over the years, Mr. Pasti has been employed in many different settings, including retail bookstore clerk, mail clerk, door-to-door canvasser for citizen action groups, dishwasher, cook, stone mason helper, field worker/truck driver on an organic farm, driver/warehouse, bus driver/program assistant, and activities director for elders with special needs. It may be that only someone else in similar “shoes” can understand the need for an untraditional career path like this, but readers are offered the following quote, which may provide some insight: “... the most promising innovations are often lost to view and lacking the resources to take effect; these innovators are working away quietly at a small-scale, local level, unknown to the much broader community that could benefit from them. They are ‘needles’ lost in the societal haystack. This isolation, often a major stumbling block for social innovators, is no coincidence: innovators often deliberately isolate themselves in order to realize a vision that may be at odds with existing norms or received wisdom.” (from article “Open Source Social Solutions” by Charlie Brown)

Beginning in the early 1980’s, Mr. Pasti developed a “compilation of excerpts” (compilations of excerpts from books, articles, websites, etc) format for organizing complex information into newsletters, resource collections, quotation collections, reference documents, and critical challenges assessment documents [Ex: [“Disarmament News”](#) (1982); [“Developing a Tao Compass”](#) (1987)(scanned document, in four parts at <http://cpcsc.info/collected-writings/>); [“An Arrangement of Quotations from ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ \(Vol. 1-15\)”](#) (1997); [“Special Moments of Insight and Inspiration in English Literature”](#) (2010);

[“IPCR Critical Challenges Assessment 2011-2012”](#); and [“Invitation Package for Possible Board of Advisors”](#) (2013)]. By using this format, Mr. Pasti believes he can provide many “connect the dots” moments which might otherwise be difficult to manage. The “compilation of excerpts” format also provides readers with quick access to the sources of insight and inspiration which Mr. Pasti discovered in his research.

In May, 2013, Mr. Pasti consolidated 4 websites--The IPCR Initiative, Community Visioning Initiatives Clearinghouse, Community Teaching and Learning Centers Clearinghouse, and his Collected Writings website into the Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative (at [www.cpcsc.info](http://www.cpcsc.info)).

Although Mr. Pasti does not have traditional credentials or professional experience, he feels that readers will find he has a “trained eye”, and a well seasoned intuitive “feel”, for analyzing complex information regarding challenges of our times, identifying pathways for solution-oriented activity to flow, synthesizing such information into understandable parts, and organizing those parts into a well organized document (much like the work which would need to be done to sort through participant input during a Community Visioning Initiative).

The “Collected Writings” section of the Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative website (at [www.cpcsc.info](http://www.cpcsc.info)) illustrates the variety and creativity of Mr. Pasti’s writing and compilation efforts over the years. One of Mr. Pasti’s favorite writings is the short story [“The Spirit of the Sacred Hoop”](#) (9 pages)(first version, 1984). Mr. Pasti believes that short story is a healing story, and he has read it many times himself with that outcome in mind.

Mr. Pasti regards the [“Invitation Package for Possible Board of Advisors”](#) document (589 pages; Nov. 2013) as a summary statement—and the Tipping Point Action Campaign as a example of the kind of campaign which could help carry solution-oriented momentum into a new era of multi-faceted accord with the only planet in the universe capable of supporting complex life forms—and with our fellow human beings.

The Press Kit for the Tipping Point Action Campaign currently provides the most concise summary of the Tipping Point Action Campaign.