

## Obituary

# Betty Reardon 1929-2023

### Nancy Flowers

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Human rights and peace education recently lost one of its earliest and most influential champions, Betty Reardon. Perhaps best known as a founder of the field of peace education, she regarded 'Human rights education [to be] as fundamental and constitutive to peace education as human rights are to peace.' Her book *Educating for Human Dignity: Learning about Rights and Responsibilities* (University of Pennsylvania, 1995) was one of the first resources offering both guidance and materials for teaching human rights in schools.

Dr. Reardon held prominent roles in the establishment of key institutions the field of peace studies, including founding the Peace Education Center and Program at Teachers College, Columbia University and the International Institute on Peace Education. She was also an accomplished scholar with numerous publications not only on peace education, but also on the intersection of peace with human rights and gender.

Betty Reardon believed in education as the key to a just and peaceful world. A beloved teacher, she inspired a generation of educators and activists. She herself never stopped learning, continuing to research, write, and teach well into her last decade.