Introduction

After reading *Peace: A History of Movements and Ideas*, by David Cortright, and watching the documentary “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”, our group was inspired to not only focus on an African country, but also how it evolved from a war torn nation. We are mainly focusing on the peace process after the infamous Rwandan genocide. What took place was the mass slaughter of Tutsis by the Hutus for 100 days in 1994. Over 700,000 people were killed.

Findings

**Peace at a Personal Level**
- For the first time, the women broke through Rwanda's Patriarchal society by taking up jobs that weren't traditionally assigned to women, such as house building.
- Rwandans began to realize that the ethnic differences that had been so magnified in the past are not actually real differences, making reintegration an easier process.
- Festive gatherings to mobilize reconciliation were organized and held by communities to bring the people of Rwanda together after the genocide.

**Peace at a Government Level**
- The Gacaca justice system was created to achieve justice in a neutral environment for Tutsis and Hutus to allow them to build trust and reintegrate.
- The Constitution now states that all Rwandans share equal rights; laws have been passed to fight discrimination and ideologies that promote genocide.
- The Unity Club was founded. In this club, women from all different backgrounds united and discussed the socioeconomic changes needed, lobbied the ideas, and helped influence the ratification of laws that would protect the rights of women from all social classes.

**Peace at an International Level**
- The United Nations Assistance Mission For Rwanda (UNAMIR) is a mission instituted by the United Nations Held Peace Talks between the Hutu government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front.
- The Security Council set up the International Criminal Tribunal (ICT) for Rwanda in 1994; it has the ability to prosecute high-level government members and military forces who may have otherwise gone unpunished.
- The ICT was the first international court to convict a suspect for rape as a crime against humanity and a crime of genocide.

Conclusions

- "The peacemaking efforts during the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide were successful, but ongoing."
- Gacaca courts gave justice to those who had been wronged.
- Personal relationships were rebuilt through community building and religion.
- International efforts have aided in the process of Rwanda’s ongoing efforts in fostering peace, unity, and reconciliation among its people.
- Women have been among the leaders in restoring the peace in Rwanda.

Research Question

How has peace been involved in the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide?