Reconciliation in inter-group conflict must take place at the level of the individual. Evolutionary biology and game theory helps explain individual resistance to reconciliation. It shows why humans have emotional biases, heuristics, and tendencies that promote reconciliation behaviors with in-group members and encourage resistance to reconciliation with out-group members. Also, it identifies aspects of social group structure that interfere with reconciliatory behavior and exacerbate resistance to reconciliation. Legal and other social institutions, such as truth and reconciliation commissions, designed to promote reconciliation must consider these fundamental causes of resistance.