

Religious Statements Against Torture

In its March 24, 2006 edition, *The National Catholic Reporter* reported the findings of an October 2005 poll conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, revealing that most Americans identifying themselves as religious support the use of torture under some circumstances. http://ncronline.org/NCR_Online/archives2/2006a/032406/032406h.htm.

Friends' Statements, see statements condemning torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment and statements supporting the Quaker Initiative to End Torture at <http://www.quit-torture-now.org/Pages/QuitWebEndorse.html>.

National Council of Churches, November 2005, General Assembly issues "A Statement on the Disavowal of Torture." See <http://www.nccusa.org/news/060515torture.html>.

National Religious Campaign Against Torture (Christians, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs) issues "Torture Is a Moral Issue" statement and seeks signatories at <http://www.nrcat.org/>.

World Council of Churches, Message from Pastor Samuel Kobia, General Secretary of the Council of World Churches on the 30th anniversary of Actions by Christians Against Torture, December 2004. See http://ww2.fiacat.org/en/article.php3?id_article=375.

International Federation of Actions by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (FIACAT) encourages 2006 Campaign : Proposals for a Joint Declaration from all Churches on the Abolition of Torture. See http://ww2.fiacat.org/en/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=83.

"5 Reasons Torture Is Always Wrong," by Dr. David P. Gushee (leading evangelical theologian), *Christianity Today*, February 2006. <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2006/002/23.32.html>. Also, see below, reprint of Dr. Gushee's article before editing from his website, <http://www.davidgushee.com>.

US Conference of Catholic Bishops – <http://www.usccb.org/>.

- Statement on Abuse of Iraqi Prisoners, May 14, 2004 <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/torturestm.htm>.
- Letter to House and Senate Conferees on Human Rights and Torture, by Bishop John H. Ricard, July 12, 2004 - <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/torture.htm>
- Letter to Conferees on Punishment of Persons Under Custody <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/senateTortureLetterConferee100405.pdf>.

Pax Christi, "A Christian Call to STOP Torture Now." http://www.paxchristiusa.org/news_events_more.asp?id=1002.

Rabbis for Human Rights – North America – <http://www.rhr-na.org>.

Rabbinic Letter on Torture, January 27, 2005 - <http://www.rhr-na.org/torture/letter012705B.html>.

Union for Reform Judaism, Resolution on Torture, adopted by the 68th General Assembly, November 2005. http://urj.org/Articles/index.cfm?id=8994&pge_prg_id=34230&pge_id=162