

APRIL 5, 2006
NATIONAL DECLARATION
BY RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LEADERS
TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WE PROCLAIM WITH ONE VOICE AS NATIONAL SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN EXISTS IN ALL COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING OUR OWN, AND IS MORALLY, SPIRITUALLY AND UNIVERSALLY INTOLERABLE.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT OUR SACRED TEXTS, TRADITIONS AND VALUES HAVE TOO OFTEN BEEN MISUSED TO PERPETUATE AND CONDONE ABUSE.

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO WORKING TOWARD THE DAY WHEN ALL WOMEN WILL BE SAFE AND ABUSE WILL BE NO MORE.

WE DRAW UPON OUR HEALING TEXTS AND PRACTICES TO HELP MAKE OUR FAMILIES AND SOCIETIES WHOLE.

OUR RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS COMPEL US TO WORK FOR JUSTICE AND THE ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

WE CALL UPON PEOPLE OF ALL RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS TO JOIN US.

Signed

Tillie Black Bear
White Buffalo Calf Woman Society
Lakota Traditionalist

His Eminence Metropolitan Christopher
Serbian Orthodox Church

Mr. Kirit C. Daftary
President
Federation of Jain Associations
in North America

Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff, Ph.D.
The Rabbinical Assembly Worldwide
Association of Conservative Rabbis

Rabbi Daniel Ehrenkrantz
President
Reconstructionist Rabbinical
College

Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune
Founder and Senior Analyst
FaithTrust Institute

Senior Bishop Marshall Gilmore
Christian Methodist Episcopal
Church

Dr. Raymond B. Goldstein
International President
The United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism

The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church

Imam Mohamed Hag-Magid Ali
Islamic Society of North America

Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

Bishop Roger W. Haskins, Jr.
Western Area Free Methodist
Church

Rev. Stan Hastey
Executive Director
Alliance of Baptists

Rev. Dr. Bernice Powell Jackson
North America President
World Council of Churches

Bishop Joseph F. James
Central Area Free Methodist Church

Archbishop Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim
Syrians Orthodox Church

Bishop David W. Kendall
Heartland Area Free Methodist
Church

Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Christine M. Laitner
President
The Swedenborgian Church
of North America

Rabbi Norman Lamm
Chancellor and Rosh HaYeshiva
Yeshiva University

Rev. Brian D. McLaren
Emergent

Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley
General Secretary
American Baptist Churches in the
USA

Most Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich
Prime Bishop
Polish National Catholic Church

Socho Koshin Ogui
Bishop
Buddhist Churches of America

Rev. Glenn R. Palmberg
President
Evangelical Covenant Church

Imam Hassan Qazwini
Religious Director
Islamic Center of America

Skip Sandman
Traditional Healer
Ojibwe Nation

Tinker Schuman
Ojibwe Elder
Ojibwe Nation

Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi
President
The Fiqh Council of North America

Rev. William G. Sinkford
President
Unitarian Universalist Association
of Congregations

Bishop Richard D. Snyder
Eastern Area Free Methodist
Church

Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed
Secretary General
Islamic Society of North America

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National President of Women's Ministries
The Salvation Army

Rev. John H. Thomas
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

President Stephen M. Veazey
Community of Christ

Archbishop Vsevolod of Scopelos
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of
U.S.A.

Rev. Dr. Sharon E. Watkins
General Minister and President
Christian Church (Disciples of
Christ)

Bishop Peter D. Weaver
President, Council of Bishops
United Methodist Church

Rev. David L. Wickmann
President
Moravian Church, Northern
Province

Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson
Moderator
Metropolitan Community Church

Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie
President
Union for Reform Judaism

Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi
ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish
Renewal

Rev. Dr. Bob Edgar
General Secretary
National Council of Churches

Rev. Dr. Dwight J. Friesen
Coordinating Group
Emergent Village

Winnie Bartel
National Association of Evangelicals

Rev. Kathryn Goering Reid
Association of Brethren Caregivers
Church of the Brethren

FaithTrust 
INSTITUTE

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sexual & domestic violence

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