



SISTERS OF CHARITY ACTION NETWORK

Office of Peace, Justice and Ecological Integrity
A collaborative ministry of the SC's of New York and New Jersey

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May Justice

Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability and the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace and the joyful celebration of life.
The Earth Charter

Justice for Our Mother 1-Indigenous and campesino (small-scale farmer) movements in the Andean nation of Bolivia are on the verge of pushing through one of the most radical environmental bills in global history. The "Mother Earth" law under debate in Bolivia's legislature will almost certainly be approved, as it has already been agreed to by the majority governing party, Movimiento Al Socialismo (MAS). The law draws deeply on indigenous concepts that view nature as a sacred home... on which we intimately depend. As the law states, "Mother Earth is a living dynamic system made up of the undivided community of all living beings, who are all interconnected, interdependent and complementary, sharing a common destiny." www.yesmagazine.org.

Justice Resources 1-This office has a group subscription for **Education for Justice website resource** which comes out of the Center of Concern in Washington DC. If you would like to be one of the users on this membership for the coming year, please contact this office for access information. www.educationforjustice.org. Who might benefit from it? This site is designed for: Religious Educators, High School Theology Teachers, Campus Ministers, Service Learning Coordinators, Youth Ministers, Parish Social Concerns Committees, Peace and Justice Committees, Religious Communities and Faith-sharing Groups.

2-From Pax Christi International <http://www.catholicsocialteaching.org.uk/themes/solidarity/>

Environment 1-Do you remember seeing the oil spilling from BP Oil Rig? Rep. Edward Markey (D-Mass.), the top Democrat on the House Natural Resources Committee, received an award at the Tribeca Film Festival for his efforts to secure a live video feed of last year's Gulf of Mexico oil spill. Tribeca honored **Markey's** crusade with a unique award for "DISRUPTIVE INNOVATION," a term used to describe an advancement that renders its predecessor obsolete. Spillcam did this for conventional reporting on oil spills: As Americans watched the Deepwater Horizon pipe gushing live on TV, traditional news reports about the spill had to offer viewers more than just numbers of gallons.



Human Trafficking 1-Write your senators and ask them to co-sponsor The Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Deterrence and Victims Support Act of 2011 (S.596) sponsored by Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and John Cornyn (R-TX). It authorizes large block grants to create a comprehensive, victim-centered approach to addressing child sex trafficking and calls for improvements to the National Crime Information Center system to track information about missing and exploited children. Go to: www.polarisproject.org for more information

2-Very Young Girls the 2007 award winning Showtime movie on human trafficking will be shown on May 4, 2011 at 6:30 pm at Alumni Hall at the College of Mount Saint Vincent. The movie centers on the work of Rachel Lloyd a former trafficked victim, turned activist and her service organization GEMS (Girls Educational Mentoring Service). All are welcome.

This film is available on Netflix for others who may be interested in hosting a showing.

The Gift of Water

1- Hydraulic fracturing is a dangerous and controversial drilling technique to extract natural gas and oil from the rock formations in the earth. In order to extract the gas, high volume, high pressure water and chemicals are injected in order to break up the rock formations. Click here to let your NY legislators know that they are looking at a law that has a fatal flaw in it: http://action.foodandwaterwatch.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=6428.

2-Corporations like Coke, Pepsi and Nestlé have manufactured demand for bottled water – building a market by eroding confidence in public tap water. It's time to Think Outside the Bottle. Tell them to admit to using Public Water Sources: http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/2215/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=6646

Local Legislation-NY Paid Sick Time Act - Three years ago, New Jersey passed a law similar to this. Every day New Yorkers are forced to choose between a paycheck and caring for their own health and/or a sick family member. Millions of New Yorkers do not have a single paid day off for illness in a year. This lack of paid sick time comes with a cost -- not just to those workers, but also to their families, to businesses, to public health, to children and to seniors.

[Tell the Mayor and the City Council](#) to Support the Working Families of New York City by Passing the Paid Sick Time Act

NETWORK on the 2012 Budget Proposal from the House

On April 15 the House passed a proposal for spending in 2012, with the appropriations plan through 2021. NETWORK most vehemently disagrees with Chairman Ryan's "Path to Prosperity," as he is calling his House budget proposal. We've seen some aspects of this budget before; it keeps effective tax rates low for corporations and millionaires, continues limitations on supports for those who are most vulnerable, and eliminates life-saving regulations. However, never in the history of the nation has such a destruction of the social safety-net been proposed. Read more on this at: <http://www.networklobby.org/legislation/unbalanced-budget> Tell your representative in Congress that Paul Ryan's FY2012 budget is not the budget America needs. Among the points you might make are:

If you are serious about reducing the deficit, you wouldn't give more tax cuts to millionaires.

If you care about the common good of all Americans, you wouldn't put the burden of reducing the deficit on senior citizens, students, and working families.

The way to reduce the deficit is to put Americans back to work. Ryan's budget bill (H.Con. Res. 34) does not do that. It would increase the wealth of those at the top at the expense of the rest of us. That is counter to our American values.

From Partnership for Global Justice The upcoming UN Commission on Sustainability will take place at the UN, May 2nd through May 13th, 2011. The theme is Sustainable Consumption and one of the important goals of the meeting is to develop a ten year framework to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production.

It is our hope that our countries will encourage sustainable, inclusive and equitable global growth and poverty eradication, respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of toxic materials and the emission of waste and pollutants and achieve a more efficient use of natural resources so that we do not jeopardize the needs of future generations.



Action: Send postcard or email your UN Representative to encourage him/her to fully participate in the discussion and take leadership within the UN Community to shift our attitudes and actions toward a more sustainable world. Ms. Susan Rice, Ambassador, United States Mission to the United Nations, 799 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017; Email: go to www.USUN.state.gov and email message will open for you to send.

If you have other issues or events you would like to highlight in this bulletin, please be in touch.
Thanks, Sister Kati Hamm

