



# Ethical Action Report



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The *Ethical Action Report* represents the views of the Ethical Action Office of the American Ethical Union and the American Humanist Association. The American Ethical Union takes ethical positions on public affairs only through resolutions adopted by its Assembly or Board. Past AEU resolutions are available, searchable by date or topic at: <http://www.ethicalaction.org/aeuresolutions/index.html>.

## **Civil Rights: Join the Scouting for All Rally**

Become a courageous voice against discrimination and homophobia: support the Scouting for All Rally.

### BACKGROUND

Scouting for All, a non-profit advocacy organization working to change the Boy Scouts of America's exclusionary policies against atheists and gays, is sponsoring a rally and candlelight vigil in Washington, DC, May 24-25, 2006 during the Boy Scouts of America national conference. Scouting for All is rallying support in opposition of BSA's exclusive policy that sends a dehumanizing message about the homosexual and atheist/nontheist communities. According to the BSA national leadership, GLBT and atheist Americans are not moral simply because of their sexual orientation and atheistic belief. Currently the federal government supports this discriminatory organization. President Bush is even the Honorary President of the BSA. Our taxpayer dollars are being used to support the Boy Scouts of America and its discriminatory practice.

At the rally, the names of scouts will be read who have turned in their scouting awards to Scouting for All in protest of the BSA national leadership's policy of discrimination against gay and atheist youth and adults. Current and prior BSA members are encouraged to wear their uniforms so the BSA national and regional leadership will clearly see that members oppose its discriminatory policy. BSA national leaders and regional leaders from throughout the country will be in attendance at this conference.

## **Scouting for All Rally: Let's Include All Youth in Scouting: Gay & Atheist/Nontheist**

### **Press Conference**

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

10:30 - 12:00 PM

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Rd. NW, Washington, DC 20008

### **Rally**

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Rd. NW, Washington, DC 20008

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thursday, May 25, 2006

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Candlelight Vigil**

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

7:00 PM

Location to be announced

Contact Scott Cozza for more information at (707) 778-0564 or [COZZAHIVED@aol.com](mailto:COZZAHIVED@aol.com) or visit <http://www.scoutingforall.org>.

### **ACTION**

Join the Scouting for All Rally and candlelight vigil in Washington, DC, May 24-25, 2006 in support of justice and human rights for all. Help send a strong message to BSA leadership that there's no room in scouting for discrimination. If you can't make it, spread the word!

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## **Health Care Reform:**

### **Support the Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (H.R. 1233)**

Tell your representatives to support healthcare for immigrant children.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (H.R. 1233) takes initial steps in re-establishing immigrant access to health care since welfare reform in 1996. H.R. 1233 was introduced by Representatives Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL) and Henry Waxman (D-CA).

This Act would allow states to receive federal matching funds to provide Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to low-income legal immigrant pregnant women and children who currently don't have access to essential health care.

## ACTION

Urge your representatives to support the Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (H.R. 1233). Raise your ethical voices and demand immigration reform!

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### **Peace and Conflict Resolution: Support the Homeward Bound Act (H.J. Res. 55)**

Urge your representatives to support the Homeward Bound Act (H.J. Res. 55), the Iraqi troop withdrawal plan.

## BACKGROUND

H.J. Res. 55, the Homeward Bound Act, a bipartisan act, would start the process of bringing our troops home from Iraq. Representatives Walter Jones (R-NC) who previously was a strong supporter of the war and Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) introduced the act.

H.J. Res. 55 requires the Bush administration to create a withdrawal plan of all U.S. armed forces in Iraq. The Homeward Bound Act doesn't set a specific date for the completion of a withdrawal, only the start of a withdrawal no later than October 1, 2006. It also allows for flexibility to carry out the withdrawal safely and properly shift security responsibilities to Iraqis in a systematic fashion.

Mandating that the Bush administration set a date to begin withdrawal will likely encourage the Iraqi government to seek agreements and compromises on the balance of power between various Iraqi groups. Furthermore, it will address concerns of low recruitment and that our troops are stretched too thin. Military families deserve to know when their loved ones will come home.

## ACTION

Urge your representatives to support our troops by co-sponsoring H.J. Res. 55, the Homeward Bound Act.

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### **Save Darfur, Sudan: Demand Accountability and an End to the Genocide in Darfur**

Urge President Bush on April 30, 2006 at a rally in Washington, DC, to take the ethical step of leading the international community in protecting civilians in Darfur, Sudan.

## BACKGROUND

In recent reports, we have focused on the urgency of protecting the people of Darfur and stopping the atrocities. Join the Save Darfur Coalition, the AHA, and many others in a rally in Washington, DC, on Sunday, April 30, 2006. The Rally to Stop Genocide will feature a broad spectrum of prominent political figures, faith leaders, human rights activists, entertainers, journalists, and thousands of others who support a stronger multinational force to protect the civilians of Darfur.

### **Save Darfur: Rally to Stop Genocide**

When: Sunday, April 30, 2006  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Where: Washington, DC: National Mall, between the U.S. Capitol and Washington Monument

Who: Leading voices in the effort to stop the genocide in Darfur, including survivors of the

Holocaust and genocides in Cambodia, Kosovo, Srebrenica, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Darfur.

Website: <http://www.savedarfur.org>

The Save Darfur Coalition rally website features program bulletins, logistics information, and tools to help participation be a success. There will also be frequent updates and announcements about featured speakers and other details.

Contact: Chuck Thies, Rally Director, (202) 478-6302, [rally@savedarfur.org](mailto:rally@savedarfur.org)

The crisis in Darfur not only demands immediate intervention but also justice and accountability. Learn more about how the International Criminal Court can bring accountability and justice to Darfur. Visit Citizens of Global Solutions, <http://www.globalsolutions.org/index.htm> for more information.

## ACTION

Join the Rally to Stop Genocide on April 30<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. Please visit the Save Darfur website, <http://savedarfur.org>, to sign up for the rally and to send Million Voices for Darfur postcards. Specifically, the Million Voices for Darfur campaign calls on the U.S. government to support a stronger multinational force to protect the people of Darfur. And to learn more about demanding accountability for the genocide in Darfur, please visit Citizens for Global Solutions' new talking points on the International Criminal Court.

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## Contacting Elected Officials

### White House

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#### *Phone Number*

Comments: (202) 456-1111  
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#### *E-mail*

President George W. Bush:  
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Vice President Richard Cheney:  
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### Congress

#### *Mailing Address*

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*or*  
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Washington, DC 20515

#### *Phone Number*

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Visit <http://www.senate.gov> or  
<http://www.house.gov> to use your  
representatives' e-mail contact forms.

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