



Ethical Action Report



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Help Eradicate AIDS: Ask Your Representative to Pass the PATHWAY Act

The United States has failed the world's people by passing AIDS prevention policies based on ideology rather than human rights and public health.

BACKGROUND

On December 1 of each year people all over the world recognize World AIDS Day. They think about those who AIDS has taken from us. They consider medical advances that have helped us address the pandemic. And they reignite their resolve for increased political action.

ACTION

This World AIDS Day, hold the U.S. government to responsible standards of evidence-based and human-rights-based prevention. Call your representative in Congress and demand the removal of onerous restrictions so that U.S. global HIV prevention policy will be responsive to the needs of all people, especially women and girls. Specifically, ask your representative to pass the Protection Against Transmission of HIV for Women and Youth Act.

Promote GLBT Rights: Stand Up for Marriage Equality

Though it sometimes might not seem like it, America is gradually coming closer to achieving true marriage equality for GLBT Americans. But we still need your help against efforts to withhold marriage rights from same-sex couples.

BACKGROUND

In the mid-term elections several states have considered amendments to ban same-sex marriage and severely curtail the possibilities for civil unions. This is a trend that needs to be reversed.

ACTION

Sign the Million for Marriage petition. Stand up now for marriage equality. Go to <http://www.hrcactioncenter.org/campaign/millionformarriageac> and make your voice heard.

Work Against Genocide: Help Move Peacekeepers into Sudan

Despite ceasefire agreements signed in 2004 and 2005, and the recent Darfur Peace Agreement, attacks on civilians still continue in Darfur (West Sudan). An estimated 500,000 people have died in the continuing conflict and more than 4 million people need humanitarian intervention.

BACKGROUND

The crisis began when the Sudanese government armed and organized a brutal militia to attack and displace thousands of the African tribes in Darfur. This militia and other rebel groups have executed men and boys, systematically raped women and girls, destroyed crops and poisoned water supplies, and forcibly recruited children. The aim is to wipe out whole African tribes.

ACTION

Write a Letter to the Editor for your community newspaper and demand that the United Nations accelerate their efforts to get peacekeeping troops into Darfur.

Oppose Unconstitutional Powers: End Presidential Signing Statements

When a president of the United States signs a bill into law, he has an option to add a “signing statement,” a comment or interpretation that has traditionally been regarded as advisory. But President George W. Bush has issued over 800 signing statements since 2001, and the judicial branch is showing signs of willingness to accept these statements as law. Bush’s total surpasses the number of signing statements issued by all U.S. presidents since the founding of this country.

BACKGROUND

The details that Bush has found “unacceptable” and instructed government agency officials to ignore always concern limits to executive power. But these laws he tampers with are those that members of Congress have crafted after months of research and bipartisan negotiation. For them to be gutted with a few strokes of a president’s pen allows autocracy to trump democracy.

ACTION

Call your senators and tell them that U.S. presidents aren’t entitled to the powers of dictators. Urge them to vote yes on Bill 3721 IS.

Contacting Elected Officials

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