

Statement Against Human Trafficking

The illegal trade in human trafficking is one of the most grievous violations of fundamental human rights in the 21st Century. Enslaving persons, especially women and children, through the use of force, deception, fraud, sale, or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor such as in garment factories, agricultural work, or domestic servitude is the antithesis of who we are as members of the Loretto Women's Network. We stand together in recognizing, affirming, and defending the inherent human dignity of all persons against every type of discrimination and against every form of violence and oppression that denies full human development.

In I Am the Way, the Constitutions of the Sisters of Loretto, we state: "As we stand with Mary at the foot of the cross, we strive to bring the healing Spirit of God into our world and we commit ourselves to improving the conditions of those who suffer from injustice, oppression, and deprivation of dignity." Consequently, we deplore the abuse of persons who are the victims of human trafficking and, as a body, we commit ourselves to the education of ourselves and others and to actions on behalf of the victims of human trafficking.

We join with other religious communities in supporting the Salvatorian Sisters Anti-Human Trafficking Project.

February 2008