

Combined Proposed Resolutions
Adopted at the NCCW 2010 Convention
November 13, 2010

Promotion of NCCW's Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas the Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred from the moment of conception until natural death and the dignity of all persons is the foundation of a moral vision for society; and

Whereas the National Council of Catholic Women promotes the sacredness of all persons and has chosen programs that would Build a Campaign for Human Dignity,

Be it resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women will educate Catholic women about the Campaign for Human Dignity; and

Be it resolved that the NCCW Commission Chairs will offer information to assist affiliated NCCW organizations in developing programs to promote the Campaign for Human Dignity; and

Be it resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women membership will continue in their efforts to promote the dignity of all persons from conception to natural death.

Domestic Violence – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas 85% of reported domestic violence victims are women; and

Whereas domestic violence not only permanently scars the immediate victims involved, it also deeply affects the entire family, community, and world in a severely negative manner; and

Whereas the act of domestic violence is spurred by anger and hate, but the command of Jesus is to love,

Be it resolved that NCCW members will use resources to educate women about the dangers of domestic violence, and support victims by having information for assistance available in public places; and

Be it resolved that NCCW members will pray diligently to the Holy Spirit to remove this violence from our society; and

Be it resolved that NCCW members will support groups, in so far as they are in line with Catholic teachings, that assist domestic violence victims, and advocate programs to NCCW affiliations that help victims (NCCW *Healing Wounds* Program), and support legislation that aids victims.

Energy and Integrity of the Environment – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas: All energy sources should co-exist in a manner that value life, safety and the integrity of our environment through rational, intelligent and scientific development; and

Whereas: Advocating general stewardship of the environment for the common good seeks a safe secure energy supply for global life; and

Whereas: History shows the past and present unexpected energy events demonstrate the need to pursue environmental justice and that energy support groups should acknowledge the universal needs, rights and responsibility to protect the environment,

Be it resolved that The National Council of Catholic Women will seek the support of their membership to use and promote the NCCW Earth in Our Hands Program; and

Be it resolved that together with other interfaith organizations and community groups NCCW members will help raise the conscience of decision makers to explore beyond energy development for the solutions to the consequences of error that lead to public, worker and environmental health risks and the loss of life.

Immigration – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas persons unable to find work in their country have a right to migrate to find work for the survival of themselves and their families; and

Whereas immigration laws and policies in the United States have had an inadequate process to legalize immigrants and reunite families facing long separations due to quotas for entry,

Be it resolved that members of NCCW, in concert with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will educate themselves on the issues and realities of immigration reform and seek to educate others; and

Be it resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women members will advocate with direct communication to the Congress of the United States to pass comprehensive immigration reform to keep families together and free from fear of deportation with a fair system based on legal presence and legal entry; and

Be it resolved that NCCW members will advocate through prayer for a just and equitable solution to the difficulties encountered by immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their families.

Impact of Pornography on the Family and Society – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas the National Council of Catholic Women has formed a partnership with the Religious Alliance Against Pornography Board which has published the educational brochure “Sex and Cell Phone Safety”; and

Whereas the members of NCCW are aware of the serious threat that pornography and sexualized cultural messages play in society,

Be it resolved that NCCW members will educate themselves about new technology and its capabilities and speak out about appropriate internet and cell phone behavior to parents and children in their families and in their parishes; and

Be it resolved that as concerned women we will advocate for the protection of families when purchasing electronic devices such as cell phones by encouraging questions to be asked about internet filtering and appropriate parental controls.

Marriage – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has published a National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage; and

Whereas the need to form and prepare our youth and young adults for marriage and the need to strengthen existing marriages is so evident in our society,

Be it resolved that members of NCCW will help promote the Pastoral Initiative for Marriage and the resources that the USCCB is making available, including the USCCB website link “For Your Marriage” and the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers web site, www.NACFLM.org; and

Be it resolved that NCCW members will study the USCCB’s Pastoral Letter *Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan*; and

Be it resolved that NCCW members will actively promote and support family prayer to strengthen marriages and families.

National Health Care Reform – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has called for modification of the National Health Care Reform Act to provide additional protection for life, dignity and the freedom of conscience,

Be it resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women Board of Directors issue a statement that supports the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' call for a national health care policy that will

1. Ensure access to quality, affordable, life giving health care for all;
2. Retain longstanding requirements that federal funds not be used for elective abortions or plans that include them, and effectively protect conscience rights;
3. Protect the access to health care that immigrants currently have and removes current barriers to access, and

Be it resolved that NCCW will recommend to Archdiocesan / Diocesan Councils, affiliates, and individual members that they initiate a plan to cooperate with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), State Catholic Conferences and local bishops in legislative action and advocacy that foster the specific proposals USCCB has defined as essential to a health care reform policy that will support life, dignity and conscience rights.

Respect for Life – Building a Campaign for Human Dignity

Whereas over 50 million unbornbabies have been killed by abortion since the 1973 Roe vs Wade Decision, changing forever God's desire for their future, our church and our society; and

Whereas 40 DAYS FOR LIFE is a proven effective campaign that parallels Biblical history where God used 40-day periods to transform individuals, communities, and the entire world, from Noah in the flood to Moses on the mountain, to the disciples after Christ's resurrection, to our time of discipleship and challenge,

Be it resolved that the National Council of Catholic Women will encourage diocesan councils to take an active role in coordinating and / or continuing a 40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign in their diocese and encourage every council member to participate in a 40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign through prayer or active participation until legalized abortion ends in our country.

The 90th Anniversary of NCCW

Whereas the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) was founded on March 4, 1920 “... to give Catholic women of the country a common voice and an instrument for united action in all matters affecting Catholic or national welfare, to ensure proper Catholic representation on, and the proper recognition of Catholic principles in national committees and national movements affecting the religious, moral and material well-being of the country and to stimulate the work of existing Catholic women’s organizations to greater service and usefulness in meeting the needs of our times;” (*National Council of Catholic Women: The First 75 Years*, Ruth L. O’ Halloran); and

Whereas NCCW has continued to carry this vision forth in its work,

Be it resolved that in celebration of the 90th anniversary of NCCW’s founding, the membership will renew their commitment to NCCW’s Mission Statement to “act through its membership to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service” and that “NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.” (NCCW Mission Statement).